**LOGICAL FALLACIES**

**1) Begs the question** is actually a term that comes from logic, and it's used to indicate that someone has made a conclusion based on a premise that lacks support.

I remember what begs the question means by thinking that the argument raises a specific question--it begs \*the\* question--What's your support for that premise? Or more informally, What does that have to do with anything? You use the phrase begs the question when people are hoping you won't notice that their reasons for coming to a conclusion aren't valid. They've made an argument based on a lame assumption. The question is - What's your support for that premise?

2) **A** **Red Herring** is a fallacy in which an irrelevant topic is presented in order to divert attention from the original issue.

**3) Post hoc** is a fallacy in which one event is said to be the cause of a later event simply because it occurred earlier.

**4) Hasty generalizations:** This is a conclusion based on insufficient or biased evidence. In other words, you are rushing to a conclusion. (based on a single case or too few examples)

**5) Missing the point:** The '**Missing the Point**' fallacy occurs where the wrong conclusion is drawn – to fail to understand the important part of something. I'm afraid you missed the point. Let me explain it again. You keep explaining, and I keep **missing the point**.

**6) Ad hominem:** attacking an opponent’s motives or character rather than the policy or position.

**7) Slippery Slope:** arguments falsely assume that one thing must lead to another.

**8) Appeal to Pity:** fallacy seeks agreement through sympathy.

**9) Appeal to Authority:** Using an authority as evidence in your argument when the authority is not really an authority on the facts relevant to the argument.

**10) Non sequitur –** a statement that does not follow logically from ideas or statements that preceded it.

**11) Circular logic –** support for a statement that is merely a repetition of the idea in slightly different terms

**12) Questionable Cause** – the claim that one thing causes another only because the two things are related on a regular basis

**13) Appeal to ridicule –** when ridicule or mockery is used as evidence in an argument

**14) Appeal to BANDWAGON –** the idea that everyone is doing it, so it must be right

**15) Appeal to PLAIN FOLK –** everyone can agree because it seems normal for regular people

**16) Appeal to SNOB APPEAL –** if you want to be a part of this ELITE group, buy this product

**17) False dilemma** – assumption that only 2 options are viable, when more than 2 really exist (either/or situation)