

Name; \_\_\_\_\_

## Logical fallacies identification worksheet

**Part one- Directions: Look at the following situations and determine which logical fallacy is most present in the example. Each fallacy will only be used once. You may use your notes.**

Logical fallacies: False comparison (1), All Natural Fallacy (2), Appeal to Popularity (3), Hasty Generalization (4), Misinterpreting the Evidence (5), Unit Fallacy (6), Fallacy of Ignorance (7), Many Questions (8), False Dilemma (9), Fallacy of Antecedent (10), Red Herring (11), Straw Man (12), Tautology (13), Reductio ad absurdum (14), Slippery Slope (15), Post hoc ergo propter hoc (16)

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. When **Stephen Colbert** interviews his guest, typically a democrat, and asks him/her: “George W. Bush: Great President or greatest President?”
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The Chewbacca defense from **South Park**: (Setup: Chef discovers that he is the author of a song that has recently become famous. So he sues the record company. The record company hires Jonnie Cochran (OJ Simpson’s lawyer) to defend the record company, and this is his closing statement:  
Cochran  
...ladies and gentlemen of this supposed jury, I have one final thing I want you to consider. Ladies and gentlemen, this is Chewbacca. Chewbacca is a Wookiee from the planet Kashyyyk. But Chewbacca lives on the planet Endor. Now think about it; that does not make sense!  
Gerald Broflovski  
Damn it!... He’s using the Chewbacca defense!  
Cochran  
Why would a Wookiee, an eight-foot tall Wookiee, want to live on Endor, with a bunch of two-foot tall Ewoks? That does not make sense! But more important, you have to ask yourself: What does this have to do with this case? Nothing. Ladies and gentlemen, it has nothing to do with this case! It does not make sense! Look at me. I’m a lawyer defending a major record company, and I’m talkin’ about Chewbacca! Does that make sense? Ladies and gentlemen, I am not making any sense! None of this makes sense! And so you have to remember, when you’re in that jury room deliberatin’ and conjugatin’ the Emancipation Proclamation, does it make sense? No! Ladies and gentlemen of this supposed jury, it does not make sense! If Chewbacca lives on Endor, you must acquit! The defense rests.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The Bear Patrol in **The Simpsons** (Setup: One loose bear wanders into the neighborhood, so the town forms a mob and demands that the Mayor fix the problem. The Mayor brings in a ‘Bear Patrol’ with multiple vehicles, stealth bombers, helicopters, and foot patrols constantly on the lookout for bears.)  
Homer: The bear patrol sure is using a great job of keeping the bears away!

Logical fallacies: False comparison (1), All Natural Fallacy (2), Appeal to Popularity (3), Hasty Generalization (4), Misinterpreting the Evidence (5), Unit Fallacy (6), Fallacy of Ignorance (7), Many Questions (8), False Dilemma (9), Fallacy of Antecedent (10), Red Herring (11), Straw Man (12), Tautology (13), Reductio ad absurdum (14), Slippery Slope (15), Post hoc ergo propter hoc (16)

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. If it's raining, then the streets are wet.

It isn't raining.

Therefore, the streets aren't wet.

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. Bill: "You know, those feminists all hate men."

Joe: "Really?"

Bill: "Yeah. I was in my philosophy class the other day and that Rachel chick gave a presentation."

Joe: "Which Rachel?"

Bill: "You know her. She's the one that runs that feminist group over at the Women's Center. She said that men are all sexist pigs. I asked her why she believed this and she said that her last few boyfriends were real sexist pigs. "

Joe: "That doesn't sound like a good reason to believe that all of us are pigs."

Bill: "That was what I said."

Joe: "What did she say?"

Bill: "She said that she had seen enough of men to know we are all pigs. She obviously hates all men."

Joe: "So you think all feminists are like her?"

Bill: "Sure. They all hate men."

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. Jill and Jane have some concerns that the rules their sorority has set are racist in character. Since Jill is a decent person, she brings her concerns up in the next meeting. The president of the sorority assures her that there is nothing wrong with the rules, since the majority of the sisters like them. Jane accepts this ruling but Jill decides to leave the sorority.

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. Stalin was an atheist.

Stalin had millions of people killed.

Therefore, atheism is evil.

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. "The Hawkeyes are favored to win since they're the better team."

\_\_\_\_\_ 9. All Illinois politicians are corrupt because three of their governor's have been indicted (found guilty) of corruption or corruption like charges.

\_\_\_\_\_ 10. If you smoke marijuana you will wind up killing your entire family.

\_\_\_\_\_ 11. Banning "head" shops from selling drug paraphernalia in order to curb drug abuse makes about as much sense as banning bikinis to reduce promiscuity.

\_\_\_\_\_ 12. The new form of experimental chemotherapy must be working; not a single patient has returned to complain.

\_\_\_\_\_ 13. When Al Gore is concerned about capturing or killing man-bear-pig rather than saving the boys from the cave in South Park.

\_\_\_\_\_ 14. A sci-fi nerd asks a scientist, How would you explain the presence of aliens on our planet?

\_\_\_\_\_ 15. People who want to lower taxes must be against the poor, since the tax cuts disproportionately benefit the wealthy.

\_\_\_\_\_ 16. One apple plus one orange equals two apples.