

2.9. Pragmatic Fallacies

Begging the Question: An argument which, in the process of arguing for some claim, uses that very claim as one of the premises (hence arguing in a circle).

Complex Question: An attempt to trap someone by asking a question which has a false (or controversial) presupposition.

False Dichotomy: An attempt to trap someone by asking a question which presupposes a false or controversial dichotomy (disjunction).

(Notice that False Dichotomy is thus really a particular species of Complex Question).

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