The three methods in persuading an argument include pathos, ethos, and logos. Pathos deals with emotional appeal, ethos correlates with credible appeal, and logos revolves around logical appeal. Through the analysis of the DHS’s sources, the three methods were used to create arguments inferred from the agent’s biographies. Through pathos, ethos, and logos, a thorough analysis specified information from the background knowledge of the agents.

Agent Jason Pigg is currently an Associate Political Analyst for the DHS Cyber Terrorism Unit. This agent’s credibility is impressive. Although he only has two previous places of employment (CIA & FBI), he worked for them for a combined total of 12 years. Dr. Pigg’s employments lengths are nearly quadruple the length of the average American according to forbes.com. He has a wife, two children and numerous pets. This portrays him as a caring and loving person. By being a pet owner Dr. Pigg is placed in a small percentage of Americans who are willing to go that extra mile to care for someone other than themselves. The average American owns approximately two pets, (American Veterinary Medical Association) while Dr. Pigg owns six. These simple family qualities display Dr. Pigg`s responsibility and commitment. After further investigation, the persuasion method logos do not apply to Dr. Pigg. A possible reason for this is because of the missing links within his education history. The normal progression of degrees is typically: bachelor’s degree, master’s degree, and then Ph.D. After receiving his bachelors in political sciences, there’s a six year gap before his next degree is obtained. The fact that he was employed by the FBI, followed by the CIA, during this time period only furthers confusion associated with flawed education history.

Agent Atkinson’s current position is Digital Systems Researcher for DHS. Atkinson’s profile demonstrates logos through his education. In 1993, he graduated with two majors in electrical engineering and computer science and continued his education by earning master’s degrees in the same fields. In 2000, Agent Atkinson earned a PHD in Computer Engineering. He also displays an emotional appeal as he is married with two children. It can be inferred that Atkinson is a credible, caring, and trusting person. We can rely on any information he gives.

Agent Jean Gourd currently works as a Cyber-Security Training Specialist for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). He was born in the small community of Buford, Wyoming. Regardless of his small-town upbringing, Agent Gourd achieved acceptance from prestigious universities, such as MIT, Stanford, and Carnegie Mellon. One can conclude that Agent Gourd may have left his home town for a better future in prestigious colleges as a prime example of logos. Agent Gourd has a strong credibility due to his previous employment records. He was a network engineer for seven years. In addition, he worked as a Director of the Web Enhanced Education Board for four years, as well as having three other jobs in a nine year period. Agent Gourd can be recognized as having a strong credibility due to his multiple career paths.

In conclusion, many arguments were identified, using Aristotle’s three methods of persuasion. The three methods constituted for the arguments presented. Pathos, ethos, and logos play a role in persuading and understanding the emotional, credible, and logical appeal of an argument.