



Chapter 0.1 Discussion: Science, Logic, Fallacies

10. For each of the following quotations or arguments, choose the fallacy that is most accurately represented from the following list:

- *Argumentum ad Populum* (Appeal to Emotion) C
- *Argumentum ad Baculum* (Appeal to Force) A
- *Argumentum ad Hominem*
- *Petitio Principii* (Begging the Question) F
- *Post hoc ergo propter hoc* E
- Strawman b
- Red Herring d
- Slippery Slope h
- False Dichotomy
- Hasty Generalization g

- (a) After his 2005 State of the Union Address, President George W. Bush's proposals were characterized thus:

George W. Bush's State of the Union Address, masked in talk of "freedom" and "democracy," was an outline of a brutal agenda of endless war, global empire, and the destruction of what remains of basic social services.

International Action Center, Feb. 4 2005, <http://iscenter.org/folder06/stateoftheunion.htm>

- (b) In 2009, during the debate over President Obama's healthcare reform bill—the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act—former vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin took to Facebook to denounce the bill thus:

"The America I know and love is not one in which my parents or my baby with Down Syndrome will have to stand in front of Obama's 'death panel' so his bureaucrats can decide, based on a subjective judgment of their 'level of productivity in society,' whether they are worthy of health care. Such a system is downright evil."

- (c) Michele Bachmann, Republican Congresswoman from Minnesota, was a guest on CNN's Larry King Live in 2009. The topic was "birtherism," the (false) belief among some that Barack Obama was not in fact born in America and was therefore not constitutionally eligible for the presidency. After playing a clip of Senator Lindsey Graham (R, South Carolina) denouncing the myth and those who spread it, King asked Bachmann whether she agreed with Senator Graham. She responded thus:

"You know, it's so interesting, this whole birther issue hasn't even been one that's ever been brought up to me by my constituents. They continually ask me, where's the jobs? That's what they want to know, where are the jobs?"