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Critical Thinking Assignment #3

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CT-Assignment 3.1

Statement 1: Each brick in that building weighs less than a pound. Therefore, the building weighs less than a pound.

Premises & Conclusion:

P) Each brick in that building weighs less than a pound.

C) Therefore, the building weighs less than a pound.

Fallacy: Informal (Composition fallacy)

Argument is invalid as conclusion cannot be made on premises.

Statement 2: All cats are felines. All dogs are canines. Therefore, all cats are canines.

Premises & Conclusion:

P1) All cats are felines.

P2) All dogs are canines.

C) Therefore, all cats are canines.

Fallacy: Informal (Equivocation Fallacy)

Argument is invalid as the meaning of the both the premises are in different sense.

Statement 3: My father smoked four packs of cigarettes a day since age fourteen and lived until age sixty-nine. Therefore, smoking really can't be that bad for you.

Premises & Conclusion:

P1) My father smoked four packs of cigarettes a day since age fourteen and lived until age sixty-nine.

C) Therefore, smoking really can't be that bad for you.

Fallacy: Informal (Hasty generalization)

Argument is invalid as it is extremely unreasonable to draw a universal conclusion about the health risks of smoking by the case study of one man.

Statement 4: All lions are carnivores similarly all tigers are carnivores as well. So all tigers are lions.

Premises & Conclusion:

P1) All lions are carnivores.

P2) All tigers are carnivores

C) All tigers are lions.

Fallacy: Formal Fallacy (Errors of logic)

The argument is invalid as the relationship between the premises doesn't support the conclusion.

Statement 5: All Arabs are Muslims similarly all Iranians are Muslims. So all Iranians are Arabs.

Premise & Conclusion:

P1) All Arabs are Muslims.

P2) All Iranians are Muslims.

C) All Iranians are Arabs.

Fallacy: Formal Fallacy (Error of logic)

Argument is invalid as this argument fails on two levels. First, the premises are untrue because although many Arabs and Iranians are Muslim, not all are. Second, the two ethnic groups are sets that do not overlap; nevertheless, the two groups are confounded because they (largely) share one quality in common.

Statement 6: Hydrogen and oxygen are wet, so water is wet.

Premises & Conclusion:

P1) Hydrogen and oxygen are wet.

C) So, water is wet.

Fallacy: Informal Fallacy (Composition Fallacy)

Argument is clearly invalid as one cannot conclude on just the first premise.

Statement 7: Paranormal activity is real because I have experienced what can only be described as paranormal activity.

Premises & Conclusion:

P1) I have experienced what can only be described as paranormal activity.

C) Paranormal activity is real.

Fallacy: Informal Fallacy (Begging the Question/Circular Reasoning)

The premise presupposes, or assumes, that the claim, "paranormal activity is real" is already true.

Statement 8: If Kant was a deontologist, then he was a non-consequentialist, but Kant was not a deontologist. Therefore, Kant was not a non-consequentialist

Premises & Conclusion:

P1) If Kant was a deontologist, then he was a non-consequentialist

P2) Kant was not a deontologist.

C) Therefore, Kant was not a non-consequentialist.

Fallacy: Formal Fallacy (Denying the antecedent)

This argument has the form of the fallacy, denying the antecedent.

CT-Assignment 3.2

1. **One belief I have been taught by my culture about the way people should behave in groups is:**

"When someone older than you says something and you know that what they are saying is factually wrong but you have to keep quiet and listen and also not to cross question."

The person or people who taught me this were:

"My Parents"

In analysing this belief, I do not think it is rational because:

"If we know that someone is wrong it is our duty to correct them because that misinformation shouldn't be carried forward to other people no matter whom we are correcting."

2. **One belief I have been taught within or about religion is:**

"It is being said that men and women are not equal."

The person or people who taught me this were:

"People in my society."

In analysing this belief, I do not think it is rational because:

"I believe women are equally capable of doing things that men can do."

3. **One belief I seem to have developed by following mainstream media/popular press is:**

"Whatever the mainstream media is saying is truth & just."

In analysing this belief, I do not think it is rational because:

"On several occasions I found out through social media and micro blogging websites that whatever the mainstream media has delegated was either fake or fabricated misinformation and they show incomplete stories out of context."

CT-Assignment 3.3

I can recall an incident when I showed egocentric behaviour and it was during the time when I was doing my final year project. In the starting phase of the project making I was more concerned about my work being appreciated by the supervisor. But I think it was not the right attitude and in future it could hamper my decisions as management professional in the following ways: -

- Biasness in group decision.
- Over competitiveness in group.
- Unhealthy group synergy.