Case 1: they're sitting in a directory on the drive they're trying to eject and the system sees this and says, "I can't eject it, the drive's busy!"

Case 2: using lsof /dev/sdc1 to check which resource is currently holding file or connection

lsof vs fuser

The usage of the two are different.

For lsof, to show opened files for certain path only, put -- in front of each path

lsof -- /home4

lsof -- /home4 -- /home2

lsof will show all opened file containing the path.

For fuser, on the other hand, show process opening the file you specified

fuser -uv <filename>

To show processes accessing a particular path, use -m

fuser -uvm /home3

fuser is more useful in identifying process id opening a particular file.

lsof is useful to find out all file(s) opened by particular process.