

Fallacies of Evidence

Communications & Media

Reasoning that fails on structure or sampling rather than relevance.

Named moves, and the flaw in each.

Structure

Circular: the conclusion as a premise

False dilemma: only two options offered

Slippery slope: no mechanism given

Equivocation: one word, two meanings

Composition: part to whole

Evidence

Hasty generalisation from few cases

Post hoc: after, therefore because

Cherry picking the favourable data

False analogy where cases differ

Anecdote standing in for a rate

A slippery slope is only a fallacy when the mechanism is missing. Where each step really does cause the next, it is an argument.