

After taking the fallacy quiz, it was interesting to see a wide variety of the arguments that we read and hear about every day. I never thought about why those arguments held no validity or had no real point. The fallacies that I come across the most are Ad Hominem and Slippery Slope. Ad Hominem brings to mind politics. It can be so difficult to choose a candidate because of the misinformation created during the candidate's campaign. Instead of adding factual information to state why one candidate is better than the other, what actions they will take to support the people's needs, and a clear argument as to why we should elect this official, there is often an array of insults. Information regarding what the other candidate did wrong, why they cannot perform the function of the office they are running for, and what bit of dirt in their past could potentially be the reason those acts make the candidate less appealing to the voter.

Donald Trump versus Hillary Clinton is a great example of a slanderous campaign. Hillary became ill during the campaign and he attacked her health issue and used it to boost himself. He painted Hillary Clinton as weak and lacking, therefore she would be unable to be a President and she would not be able to take action against the United States enemies. Donald Trump overall undermined women during his campaign, women being portrayed as weak and soft, more of a sexual object that shouldn't be given much thought as men as stronger and take charge. The majority of his campaign was blaming others for the way the world was, blaming citizens from Mexico for the lack of jobs, blaming other countries for our lack of jobs, blaming Barack Obama for how the United States was seen by others in the world. Blaming others never leads to a solution, only more problems, and as our current President, he only continues to create more problems.

The Slippery Slope fallacy is another one that really caught my mind. I am going to use a personal example here; I think it is more appropriate for this particular one. My biological father

passed away in 2004. I hadn't really been able to have a relationship with him due to reasons during growing up. He reached out after I turned 18 and I was curious. I was angry though for the many failures he had as being a parent and the circumstances I grew up in. It was suggested to me that I write him a letter to explain how I felt as I was uncomfortable talking to him over the phone. I was backtracking on wanting to see him and get to know him better. I saw he had a new family and how he treated them and it was all too much for me at the time. I ended up writing him the letter explaining all of my feelings and how angry I was with him. He died not long after that letter. I never got to talk to him again. With that background in mind the Slippery Slope argument comes into play now.

Now conflict is particularly hard. We argue that if you do not talk about conflict, then those little annoyances and issues tend to build up, if you don't talk about those issues, then it will lead to resentment, when you reach resentment, you start to act out and angry towards the person you are having troubles with. When you start to act this way, you start to push that person away from you and they start to resent you because now you are the one creating all of these issues. As you continue to act resentful towards this person, you begin to lose this relationship and things start to spiral out of control, and will lead to the end of the relationship. If you lose this relationship that you still value in a way, than you will be left alone. After feeling this resentment and anger, it is hard to let others in, if you can't discuss conflict and every relationship is going to end the same, then you are going to be alone forever, and you are going to die alone.

All of these things build; my example is that if I have conflict, something terrible will happen. That person may die tomorrow, and then that would be on my conscience. If I really love that person, is it worth confronting issues? On the other side, I am human, so the small things can turn into big things, and big things can snowball out of control. This can lead to resentment and

also a deeper conflict within me and I will blame myself instead of actually talking about issues which could potentially clear the air and build a stronger and open relationship. However, there is that one example, and if I have conflict, all of these things will continue roll down the hill, and in the end I will end up alone because if I have conflict, ultimately they will leave. The flip side to this is if I confront these issues with that person, and we potentially are unable to resolve this issue than they could remain angry, and if they walk outside and get hit by a bus, it could have been me that caused that incident. If we hadn't argued, would that person have walked outside in a hurry, would they have been more focused on what they were doing, would they have looked both ways, would they have lived if we hadn't had that one argument?

This makes absolutely no sense when you sit down and really think about it. People are overall responsible for their own actions and their own reactions. It is hard to believe that people would have so much power as to create the circumstances that occurred after in these examples. Though it is crazy in a way when you think of it, people are emotional beings, and we ruminate on issues, and down the rabbit hole we go in where one issue can lead.