

Fallacies of Argumentation in Modern American Political Discourse

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Abstract : The process of speech production and transmission naturally implies the occurrence of certain defective assumptions and erroneous formulations which may be both spontaneous, caused by haste, carelessness, etc., or deliberate. Whether deliberate or not, fallacies always act by way of "faux pas". In the latter case, we deal with fake or deceptive arguments which are the focus of the given paper. The paper departs from the assumption that fallacies are arguments that prove nothing. Additionally and more importantly, political discourse becomes the main domain for scholarly "cultivation" while pinning down fallacies. The fallacy of telling the truth but deliberately omitting important key details in order to falsify the larger picture called "the half truth" captures special attention in the given paper.

Keywords : break in the information chain, fallacy, half truth, political discourse

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