



Fallacy of False Dichotomy

by [Norva Lo](#) - Monday, 1 October 2012, 5:17 PM

In Lecture 8 (slide 5), we have seen a form of fallacy called "**False Dichotomy**".

(a) Arguments that commit the fallacy of False Dichotomy actually have a **valid argument form**! Which valid argument form is that? (Hint: It is one of the 8 valid argument forms covered in Lecture 10. Which one?)

(b) Given that arguments that commit the fallacy of False Dichotomy are all valid, then what makes such arguments fallacious? (Hint: See Lecture 8, slide 5)

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Re: Fallacy of False Dichotomy

by [Hannah](#) - Sunday, 7 October 2012, 5:53 PM

(a) Arguments that commit the fallacy of false dichotomy are in the valid argument form of disjunctive syllogism (DS).

(b) False Dichotomy is a fallacy because an argument committing the fallacy contains a false (or unlikely) disjunctive premise which leaves out possible plausible alternatives. Therefore, falsely presuming a set of limited options when in fact there are more.

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Re: Fallacy of False Dichotomy

by [Norva Lo](#) - Sunday, 7 October 2012, 7:55 PM

Perfect !

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Explanation for Question 8 in Quiz 8

by [Norva Lo](#) - Monday, 3 September 2012, 11:19 AM

The following is the solution for Question 8 in Quiz 8:

Consider the following argument:

Of course, green tea is good for you. For if it weren't, how could it be so beneficial to drink it?

Does the argument commit any fallacy? If yes, select the fallacy committed. If no, select the last option.

Select one:

- Begging the Question
- Complex Question
- False Dichotomy
- Equivocation
- Amphiboly
- Composition
- Division
- No fallacy

(a) Put the argument in [Standard Form](#). (Note: Any disguised statement originally appearing in the argument needs to be rewritten as a proper statement.)

(b) Explain why option 1 is the correct answer.

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Re: Explanation for Question 8 in Quiz 8

by [Alana](#) - Monday, 3 September 2012, 11:21 AM

(a) Standard Form

P. It is beneficial to drink green tea. [premise - originally put as a rhetorical question]

C. Green tea is good for you. [from P]

(b) Begging the question is a circular argument where a premise is the same as the conclusion, a premise is equivalent to the conclusion, or a premise presumes the conclusion. For the argument "Of course, green tea is good for you. For if it weren't, how could it be so beneficial to drink it", the conclusion that "green tea is good for you" is already presumed in the premise (which is originally put in the form of a rhetorical question suggesting that it is "beneficial to drink" green tea).

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Re: Explanation for Question 8 in Quiz 8

by [Norva Lo](#) - Tuesday, 4 September 2012, 9:04 AM

Very good!

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