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**Errors Affecting Truth**

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### **Errors Affecting Truth**

The errors affecting truth are as follows:

- Either /Or rational.
- Circumventing the issue.
- Overgeneralizing.
- Oversimplifying.
- Double standard.
- Altering the burden of proof.
- Illogical appeal (Thomas, 2013).

A legitimate conclusion is a reasonable judgment or choice obtained via reasoning supported by logic or explanation. In contrast, an illegitimate conclusion is made without the authority of the law and so does not follow established norms or regulations.

An example of a legitimate conclusion; since the GDP and the United States solely determine economic power with the largest GDP worldwide, the United States holds the most economic power.

An example of an illegitimate conclusion: because majority votes determine elections, an individual that amasses most votes automatically wins an election.

A hidden premise is necessary for reaching the given conclusion. Still, it is not mentioned explicitly in the reasoning. In contrast, expressed premise refers to the meaning of reasoning that determines if the whole purpose of the conclusion and if it coincides with what is.

The steps of evaluating an argument are;

- Determining the conclusion as well as the premises.
- Putting the argument into standard form.

- Determining if the argument is non-deductive or deductive.
- Checking to see if the argument is logically sound.
- Assessing whether the statement is true if the reasoning is logically successful. Repeat all of the stages for the sub-arguments if sub-arguments support the premises (Future Learn, n.d.).
- Making a final decision: is the argument valid or invalid?

## References

Future Learn. (n.d.). *How to Evaluate Argument*. Retrieved from

<https://www.futurelearn.com/info/courses/logical-and-critical-thinking/0/steps/9155>

Thomas, M. (2013, August 16). *Errors Affecting Truth*. Retrieved from

<https://prezi.com/zeznjir2aitr/errors-affecting-truth/>

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