

# **WANTED**

**BY THE FALLACY POLICE**



**EXAMPLES OF FALLACIES:**

**FAULTY REASONING**

**POOR LOGIC**

**BAD ARGUMENTS**



**TURN IN WRITTEN EXAMPLES**

**TO THE TEACHER**

# WANTED

## ARGUMENT BY ASSERTION

**“I’m bigger than you are, so I’m right.”**

**“I’m smarter than you are, so I’m right.”**

**“I’m right, you’re wrong, and that’s the end of it.”**

**Alias: “Argument by intimidation” or “appeal to force.” People who use this fallacy may threaten to fight or bully their opponents—or they actually *do* fight or bully them.**

# WANTED

***TU QUOQUE* and its known  
associate TWO WRONGS**

**“You did it, too!”**

**“He hit me first!”**

**“She started it!”**

**People who use this fallacy forget the Golden  
Rule: Treat people the way you *want* to be  
treated.**

# WANTED

***AD HOMINEM* and its known  
associate **THE GENETIC FALLACY****

**“You’re a mean, nasty, bad person,  
so whatever you say must be wrong”**

**“Don’t listen to him—he’s a  
Democrat/ Republican/ liberal/ conservative/  
atheist/ Christian/ Muslim/ Jew.”**

**“Can anything good come out of Nazareth?”**

**“It can’t be true! After all, look who said it!”**

# WANTED

***AD POPULUM* and its known  
associates **BANDWAGON**  
and **APPEAL TO PITY****

**“Vote for Joe, a patriotic American.”**

**“Everyone else is doing/ buying/ wearing/  
going to/ seeing/ believing it, so you should, too.”**

**People who use this fallacy appeal *just* to the  
emotions, prejudices, or sympathies of their  
listeners, *not* to their ability to think clearly.**

# WANTED

## APPEAL TO AN UNRELATED AUTHORITY

**“Listen to what he says about the economy.  
He’s a surgeon—he should know!”**

**“I know I’m right about this scientific theory.  
After all, my friend who is an art historian for the  
Smithsonian agrees with me.”**

**People who use this fallacy appeal to a real  
authority in one field as if that expert were also  
an authority in an unrelated field.**

# WANTED

## HASTY GENERALIZATION

**“You three can’t jump. Girls can’t jump.”**

**“See, that cop took a bribe. All cops are corrupt.”**

**“I didn’t pass this test. I’m stupid.”**

**Alias: HASTY CONCLUSION or JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS. People who use this fallacy look at too few specific cases or examples before drawing a general conclusion.**