

Baronett's *Logic* (4th ed.)  
Section Tips

Chapter 4: Six Tips

4B Fallacies Based on Personal Attacks

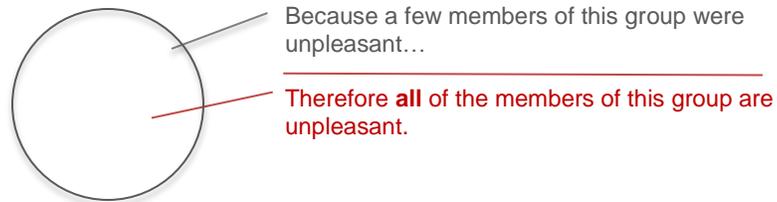
- Fallacies based on personal attacks occur when someone attacks you instead of examining your argument. The attack is not relevant to the position you advanced. Most often, such attacks are successful because they prey on our emotional vulnerabilities. In other words, we get distracted by the vehemence of the attack itself, rather than realize that the attacker has not addressed the content or structure of our position.

Your argument: Your premises  
Your conclusion

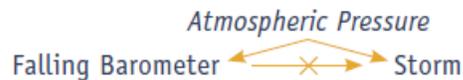
Opponent: Attacks you (ignores your argument)  
So, your position is wrong.

4C Weak Inductive Argument Fallacies

- Generalization fallacies rely on a mistaken use of the principles behind making a generalization. Someone may assign an unpleasant characteristic based on a stereotype of a certain group, for example.



- False cause fallacies attempt to connect two events as cause-effect when they may have occurred together by coincidence or have been caused by a third, common cause.



- A slippery slope fallacy attempts to connect a series of events causally in such a way as to lead inevitably to an undesirable result.



