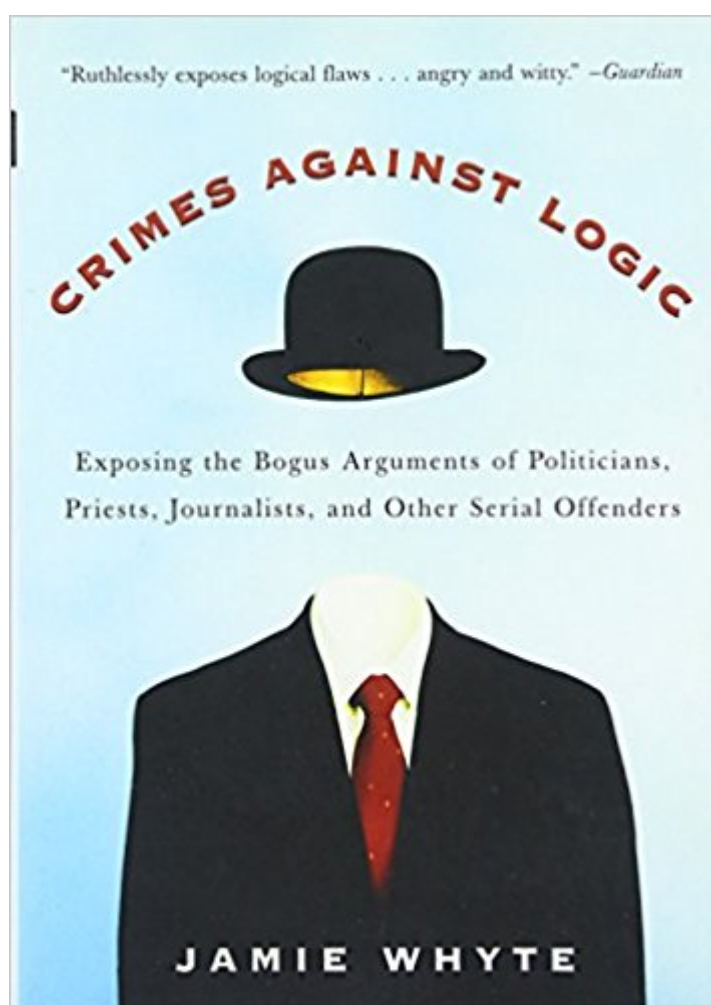


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Crimes Against Logic: Exposing The Bogus Arguments Of Politicians, Priests, Journalists, And Other Serial Offenders



Synopsis

Uncover the truth under all the BS In the daily battle for our hearts and minds--not to mention our hard-earned cash--the truth is usually the first casualty. It's time we learned how to see through the rhetoric, faulty reasoning, and misinformation that we're subjected to from morning to night by talk-radio hosts, op-ed columnists, advertisers, self-help gurus, business "thinkers," and, of course, politicians. And no one is better equipped to show us how than award-winning philosopher Jamie Whyte. In *Crimes Against Logic* Whyte take us on a fast-paced, ruthlessly funny romp through the mulligan stew of can, folderol, and bogus logic served up in the media, at the office, and even in your own home. Applying his laserlike wit to dozens of timely examples, Whyte cuts through the haze of facts, figures, and double-talk and gets at the real truth behind what they're telling us. "An incisive philosopher."--Sunday Telegraph

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Customer Reviews

"[Whyte] whets a long knife of ultra-rationalism on the cold stone of logic, and death by a thousand cuts is inflicted on prejudice, statistics, morality, religion, weasel words, and seductive sirens such as politicians, New Agers, advertising executives, and, of course, journalists who expect you to be persuaded by anything other than facts." "He ruthlessly exposes logical flaws and sheer nonsense. . . in likably angry and witty style." "Whyte whets a long knife of ultra-rationalism on the cold stone of logic, and death by a thousand cuts is inflicted on prejudice, statistics, morality, religion, weasel words, and seductive sirens such as politicians, New Agers, advertising executives, and, of course, journalists who expect you to be persuaded by anything other than facts."

Jamie Whyte (London, England) is a past lecturer of philosophy at Cambridge University and winner of Analysis journal's prestigious prize for the best article by a philosopher under 30.

When I first saw this book in stores, I thought that it would be Aristotelian logic applied to political and advertising statements. I figured I had a pretty good crap meter already and would not need the information, however, when the book was recommended by an audio course I was taking, I ordered it. Clever, humorous writing making clear illogical subtleties that you might already know but often fail to recognize because they are so surreptitious. Reading it has made me even more aware of the nonsense that passes as legitimate argument these days.

A good book guaranteed to make one a kill-joy in a courtroom or during written or spoken debate!

This author's clear thinking shines through every page of the book. His writing is hilarious and educational at the same time. Highly recommended.

I highly recommend this work to anyone interested in clear thinking, logical argumentation, and clearing away fuzzy thought patterns. This book should be required reading for all college students and anyone interested in a lucid design for reasoning.

Think you have common sense? Think others don't? Read this book. It will make you feel better.

I read this book years ago and I continue to reread it yearly. Buy it and enjoy the edification.

Great read

Logic is the frequent victim in our political debates, TV panels, newspaper editorials, and so forth so somebody had to stand up for it and this book does that. Not only does it expose the logic fallacies that we hear so much in the news media, it does so in an entertaining way, so it is a fun book to read. Some religious people seem to find it offensive, so if you are a "believer" you may wish to stay away from the book. I have one minor quibble. Whyte ignores the social context of arguments that introduce implicit factors in the debate. For example, in the second chapter, he points out that people dismiss arguments by point out that the person who makes the argument has an ulterior

motive. He points out correctly that an argument may be valid regardless of the motives of the person making it. In reality people look at things not only logically, but also in Bayesian terms. If I have heard person Z several times making arguments that were proven false and in each case he/she had a motive making them, then I can classify Z as someone who routinely makes invalid arguments when he/she has a motive. Then I can save time in the future by dismissing off hand any of his/hers arguments when there is a motive behind them.

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