**Week 3 - Discussion 2**

Appeal to emotions (also: appeal to emotions ) is a logical mistake that is used to influence one's beliefs through influencing emotions. Usually accompanied by the use of manipulative words (for example: God , country, atheism , homosexuality, etc.). “The ancient Greek philosopher Plato, for example, associated emotion and other wishes to a beast that attempts to lead manhood in numerous diverse instructions at once”(Hardy, Foster & Zúñiga 2015). During the debate, the ruse as a rhetorical device often turns out to be effective in the eyes of the public, which reacts violently to the mention of big words, but it is not a valid logical argument, because it refers to the prejudices of the listener, and does not call for a sober assessment of the situation. It is calling for emotions instead of giving logical reasons

Appeal to pity is an attempt to gain support by exploiting the opponent’s pity or guilt.

Premises 1 “You must have given me the wrong grade for the exam. I studied the material for several weeks because I knew that my career depends on a good grade. If you give me a bad grade, I’m done!”

Premises 2 "Dear ladies and gentlemen of the jury, look at this unfortunate man. He is confined to a wheelchair; his legs are not functioning. How can such a person be guilty of embezzlement?"

Conclusion

When appealing to emotions, children are most often mentioned. From images of depleted children intended to advertise contributions to charity and ending with pictures to prohibit things they don’t even know about (weapons, porn, etc.), children flicker non-stop in front of the audience, invoking her emotional feelings, often overturning all sorts of rational grounds. The calls to “think about children” have been successfully used by various political movements.

References

Hardy, J., Foster, C., & Zúñiga y Postigo, G. (2015). With good reason: A guide to critical

thinking. Retrieved from https://content.ashford.edu/