



Vic Skeptics September 2019 Crossword

Theme – Logical Fallacies #6

by Ken Greatorex

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ACROSS:

4. & 8 across: An argument which employs circular reasoning: *Example: The Bible is the Word of God. The Bible tells us so and it's infallible; it's the Word of God.* [8, 8]
8. See 4 across
11. & 13 across: Drawing a conclusion based on a sample that is selectively chosen in order to make it appear that the "average" is different than it actually is. *Example: "A survey of 1000 Victorian households revealed those surveyed have two or more wide-screen HD TVs each. Therefore, Victorians are very wealthy".* Unfortunately, all households surveyed were in Toorak. [6, 6]
13. See 11 across
14. As played on a G string [3]
15. Judgement or decision reached by reasoning based on evidence [10]
16. (Of air) Having a low pressure at high altitude compared to that at sea level [8]
20. Sailing ship circa 15th to 18th centuries [7]
21. Reputation gained through achievement [7]
22. Religious devotion and/or spirituality [5]
23. The available body of facts or information on which a valid argument can be based [8]
28. & 29 across & 30 across: Irrelevant assertion that qualities of one thing are inherently qualities of another. *Example: Hitler liked dogs. Therefore dogs are bad.* [5, 2, 11]
29. See 28 across
30. See 28 across
32. Method of philosophical debate using a series of questions to stimulate critical thinking and to draw out ideas [8]
34. Separate, split, cleave [6]
35. Not correct or provable [7]
39. One of the sides in a competitive game [4]
41. Cut down with a scythe or machine [4]
42. Homeless child [4]
44. Amount produced [6]
47. Set of reasons given to support an idea or proposition [8]
50. Attempted expulsion of a supposed evil spirit [8]
52. Internet address [3]
53. Chinese coastal megalopolis [8]
56. Item of value based on usefulness [5]
58. Formalised argument [6]
61. Interrogated [10]

64. Extreme fear [6]
65. State of matter [5]
66. Silicate of beryllium and aluminium sometimes used as a gemstone [5]
67. Perceives the presence or existence of [7]
70. Conversion of information or data into code [10]
72. Bind, tether [3]
73. Not sweet [6]
76. Hurl [5]
79. Initial proposition from which others logically follow [7]
80. Language forming the basis of Filipino [7]
82. Hindu discipline, widely practised for health and relaxation [4]
85. Slippery fish [4]
88. & 89 across: An argument that draws comparisons between two situations based on similarities which don't apply. *Example: If evolution is random, then it's like having an explosion in a rubbish tip that causes a working space shuttle to self- assemble.* [5, 7]
89. See 88 across
91. Triumph, overcome [7]
93. Taxonomic category between species and family [5]
95. Lowest point [5]
97. Biblical song [5]
98. & 100 across: Literally, "You Too". A.k.a. an *Appeal to Hypocrisy, the two wrongs fallacy, or the pot calling the kettle black.* It dismisses someone's point of view based on criticism of the person's inconsistency, and not the position presented. *Example: A mother tells her daughter to stop smoking; It's harmful to her health. The daughter replies: "Why should I listen to you? You started smoking when you were 16!"* [2, 6]
100. See 98 across
101. More haggard [7]
102. Period of time before the present [3]
103. Sudden strong wind [4]
105. Thick slice of pork or lamb, often including a rib [4]
106. Building remains of interest to archaeologists [5]
107. Banded form of chalcedony, often used as gem material [4]
109. Utters words [4]
110. In a superior position [5]
112. Major artistic work e.g. of music or literature [4]

114. Enemy [3]
115. Impoverished [4]
117. Foo fighter, for one [3]
118. Summarised by: *"I cannot explain or understand that, therefore it can't be true"*
Example 1: The Ancient Egyptians could not have had the technological know-how to construct the pyramids (therefore they must have had help from extra-terrestrials).
Example 2. "The Moon Landings represent such an unbelievably rapid development in aerospace technology in such a short time that they must have been staged" [8, 11]
121. See 118 across
122. Style of architecture, music or art prevalent in 17th and 18th centuries [7]
123. Opposite of Aye [3]
125. Element number 26 [4]
127. Factual, real, accurate [4]
129. Class of resins including adhesives and plastics [5]
131. Language designed to have a persuasive or impressive effect, but which is often regarded as lacking in sincerity or meaningful content [8]
133. The argument that a case is an exception to a rule based upon an irrelevant characteristic. Also called *ad hoc reasoning*. *Example 1: Water Diviners perform badly when scientifically tested because the scrutiny interferes with the divining process.*
Example 2: Tobacco has many health risks but should not be treated like other drugs because it has a long social history and taxing tobacco provides much revenue [7, 8]
136. See 133 across
137. Skill and sensitivity in one's dealings [4]
139. Sharpen [4]
140. & 141 across: A form of misdirection; introducing a topic not related to the subject at hand. *Example: "Why should we save the environment? The Garden of Eden might have been a nice place to live, but it wouldn't suit modern people". [3, 7]*
141. See 140 across
142. A small organized dissenting group within a larger political one [7]
143. A number of similar people or objects collected together [5]
144. Firearm's receptacle for a bullet [7]
145. Sodium's symbol [2]
146. & 147 across: The arbitrary reduction of many possibilities to only two. 43 down by another name. *Example 1: He is an enemy of my enemy therefore he must be my friend.* *Example 2: "Australia — Love It Or Leave It" [5, 9]*
147. See 146 across

DOWN:

1. & 19 down: Attacking the person, not the argument. *Example: Sydney shock-jock and climate change denier Alan Jones describes New Zealand PM Jacinda Ardern as an airhead for having an opposite view.* [2, 7]
2. Unchangeable [9]
3. Detective [6]
4. Object which tapers from a circular base to a point. [4]
5. & 31 down & 48 down: (Confusion of ____ ____) - *A Teleological Argument*, also called *Argument from Final Consequences*. The Contention that if A and B regularly occur together, A is the cause of B. *Example 1: The earth is an ideal place for humans to live, therefore it must have been designed that way. Example 2: People who are severely ill are very often depressed and angry. Thus, the cause of severe illness actually is depression and anger. So, a cheerful attitude is key to staying healthy.* [5, 3, 6]
6. Non-clerical members [5]
7. Tirade, harangue, diatribe [4]
8. Reaches one's destination [7]
9. Employ [3]
10. Undulation of sea levels in response to gravitational attraction [4]
11. & 39 down & 61 down: A conclusion is assumed within a question. *Example: When are you going to stop beating your wife?* [7, 3, 8]
12. Deductive scheme of argument consisting of a major and a minor premise and a conclusion. *Example: Major premise: Plants need to carbon dioxide to live. Minor premise: Gum trees are plants. Conclusion: Gum trees need carbon dioxide to live.* [9]
15. Cadaver [6]
17. & 55 down & 69 down: If the premises lead to an absurd conclusion then the premises must be wholly or partly wrong. This reasonable principle has suffered abuse. *Example: If I don't believe in ghosts I must necessarily not believe in atoms, since I haven't actually seen either.* [8, 2, 8]
18. Relating to moulds, yeast, mushrooms and toadstools [6]
19. See 1 down
24. & 51 down: Where an adversary's actual position or argument is misrepresented. *Example 1: Skeptics oppose homeopathy because it conflicts with their world view (not because Scientific testing consistently exposes Homeopathy as valueless)*
Example 2:
Person A: "Genetically modified crops need to be more closely regulated"
Person B: "If we stop farmers from growing GM crops, we will starve"

B argues against eliminating GM crops, not regulating them. [5, 3]

25. & 57 down & 77 down: Arbitrarily shifting the requirement for proof beyond the range of current evidence: *Example: Creationists demand to see evidence of an intermediate fossil between species A and C, for which an evolutionary relationship is postulated. Species B is discovered and fits the criteria. Now there are demands: for intermediates between A & B and B & C.* [6, 3, 9]
26. Process of reasoning employing strict principles of validity [5]
27. Widely spread [9]
31. See 5 down
33. & 76 down: a Logical Fallacy that says if an argument contains a logical fallacy, the entire proposition is wrong. *Example: A says "Spot is an animal. All dogs are animals. Spot must be a dog." B replies "That's illogical! Therefore Spot can't be a dog."* [7, 7]
36. Historical Papal seat, alternative to Rome [7]
37. Moral or legal obligations or responsibilities [6]
38. & 75 down & 92 down: Supporting your argument with the views of a prominent person when it is inappropriate to do so. *Examples: 1. Linus Pauling says that Vitamin C cures colds and he's got a Nobel prize in Chemistry. 2. Ricky Ponting says I'll feel better if I use Swisse pharmaceuticals and he's a former champion cricketer.* [6, 2, 9]
39. See 11 down
40. Of mud-brick construction [5]
43. & 71 down: Giving two choices when in actuality there could be more choices possible. 146 across by another name. [5, 7]
45. Rabbit's tail [4]
46. & 83 down & 97 down: The more rational side of an argument is called upon to justify its position by its less rational opponents. *Example: I talk with dead people. Explain that, Skeptics!* [6, 2, 5]
48. See 5 down
49. Vector of sleeping sickness [6]
51. See 24 down
54. Overdue monetary debt [7]
55. See 17 down
57. See 25 down
59. Short period of specific intense activity [4]
60. Become weary [4]
61. See 11 down

62. Get better [7]
63. Dark brown to black ornamental timber [5]
68. Interruptions in periods of play in some games during which the clock is stopped [8]
69. See 17 down
71. See 43 down
74. "That is" [2]
75. See 38 down
76. See 33 down
77. See 25 down
78. Comparison between one thing (known) and another (under scrutiny) in an attempt to draw parallels. *Example: I feel like a fish out of water* [7]
79. Layer laminated material [3]
81. & 96 down: The argument from ignorance; The argument that a belief is true because we don't know that it isn't true. *Example: The brain is complicated and not yet thoroughly understood, so it's likely that ESP is possible* [2, 11]
83. See 46 down
84. Element # 31's symbol [2]
86. "For example" [2]
87. & 130 down: The idea that a position is untenable because to accept the position would necessarily require one to accept the extreme. *Example: Pornography should not be banned, because once any form of literature can be banned, it will not stop. It will lead to burning all the great books.* [8, 5]
90. Using the same term in an argument in different places; but the word has different meanings in each case. *Example: Evolution states that one species can change into another. We see that cars have evolved into different styles. Therefore, since evolution is a fact in cars, it is true in species* [12]
92. See 38 down
93. Seize and hold [5]
94. & 113 down: Logical fallacy where a stated conclusion is not supported by its premise. *Example 1: All men are human. Mary is human, therefore Mary is a man. Example 2: Homeopathic medicines have no side effects - therefore they are better than prescription drugs* [3, 8]
96. See 81 down
97. See 46 down
98. US state [4]
104. Habitual, typical, customary [5]

106. Fix [6]
108. Inert gas [4]
111. A phrase or expression in which the same thing is said twice in different words. *Examples:*
1. *My first priority is to lose weight.*
 2. *I went there personally* [9]
113. See 94 down
114. Source of chemical or nuclear energy [4]
116. Musical instrument [4]
118. Funereal fire-stack [4]
119. Based on reason; logical [8]
120. The part of the ovary of seed plants that contains the female gamete and after fertilization becomes the seed. [5]
124. One who aspires to form or alter opinions based only on the best available evidence [7]
126. Regularly repeating pattern in music typically set by percussion and base elements [6]
128. Telephoned [4]
129. Self-interest [6]
130. See 87 down
132. A man who behaves dishonourably, especially towards a woman [3]
134. Unsullied [4]
135. Porcelain, for example [5]
135. Tartan [5]
138. Melt [4]
140. Latin King [3]

SOLUTION

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