

the ideology of terror, a series of powerful, effective blows.

The terrorists have lost the shelter of the Taliban and the training camps in Afghanistan. They've lost safe havens in Pakistan. They lost an ally in Baghdad, and Libya has turned its back on terror. They've lost many leaders in an unrelenting international manhunt. And perhaps most frightening to these men and their movement, the terrorists are seeing the advance of freedom and reform in the greater Middle East.

A desperate enemy is also a dangerous enemy, and our work may become more difficult before it is finished. No one can predict all the hazards that lie ahead or the costs they will bring. Yet, in this conflict there is no safe alternative to resolute action.

The consequences of failure in Iraq would be unthinkable. Every friend of America in Iraq would be betrayed to prison and murder as a new tyranny arose. Every enemy of America in the world would celebrate, proclaiming our weakness and decadence, and using that victory to recruit a new generation of killers.

We will succeed in Iraq. We're carrying out a decision that has already been made and will not change. Iraq will be a free, independent country. And America and the Middle East will be safer because of it. Our coalition has the means and the will to prevail. We serve the cause of liberty and that is always and everywhere a cause worth serving.

FALLACY DETECTION: ANALYZING A SPEECH FROM A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

Read the following excerpts from a text by third-party presidential candidate Ralph Nader in 2004, regarding the war in Iraq, foreign policy, and the "war on terrorism." Identify any fallacies you find within it.

44 DIRTY TRICKS TO WIN AN ARGUMENT

- Accuse your opponent of doing what he/she is accusing you of** (or worse)
- Accuse him/her of sliding down a slippery slope** (that leads to disaster)
- Appeal to authority**
- Appeal to experience**
- Appeal to fear**
- Appeal to pity** (or sympathy)
- Appeal to popular passions**
- Appeal to tradition or faith** ("the tried and true")
- Assume a posture of righteousness**
- Attack the person** (and not the argument)
- Beg the question**
- Call for perfection** (demand impossible conditions)
- Create a false dilemma** (the great either/or)
- Devise analogies** (and metaphors) **that support your view** (even if they are misleading or "false")
- Question your opponent's conclusions**
- Create misgivings: Where there's smoke, there's fire**
- Create a straw man**
- Deny or defend inconsistencies**
- Demonize their side, sanitize yours**
- Evade questions, gracefully**
- Flatter your audience**
- Hedge what you say**
- Ignore the evidence**
- Ignore the main point**
- Attack evidence** (that undermines your case)
- Insist loudly on a minor point**
- Use the hard-cruel-world argument** (to justify doing what is usually considered unethical)
- Make sweeping, glittering generalizations**
- Make much of any inconsistencies in your opponent's position**
- Make your opponent look ridiculous** ("lost in the laugh")
- Oversimplify the issue**
- Raise nothing but objections**
- Rewrite history** (have it your way)
- Seek your vested interests**
- Shift the ground**
- Shift the burden of proof**
- Spin, spin, spin**
- Talk in vague generalities**
- Talk double-talk**
- Tell big lies**
- Treat abstract words and symbols as if they were real things**
- Throw in a red herring** (or two)
- Throw in some statistics**
- Use double standards** (whenever you can)