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Don't Get Fooled!: How To Analyze Claims For Fallacies, Biases, And Other Deceptions





Synopsis

Is your teenager learning critical thinking skills in school? Well, there's a good reason if they're not the school probably isn't teaching them! If you want your kids to learn to be logical and to know when someone is trying to trick them, be aware that there is very little chance they will pick up these skills in the traditional classroom. You need to take action to make sure that your kids develop the cognitive abilities necessary for the challenging work of avoiding deception. Don't Get Fooled! explains over one hundred types of logical fallacies, cognitive biases, and other mental errors, enabling readers to mount an armed mental defense against deception. The example dialog between young adults, parents, coaches, and other characters will entertain your child while training them to detect sloppy thinking. Instances of flawed reasoning are presented without promoting or condemning religion, without praising or criticizing specific politicians or political parties, and without even mentioning divisive social issues like abortion, gay marriage, or gun control. Although targeted at teens, the content is equally valuable to any adult who does not know a hasty generalization from a hypothesis contrary to fact, nor a red herring from a reductio ad absurdum. If your kids automatically accept what they read in books, hear on the radio, see on TV, search on the internet, or are taught in school, Don't Get Fooled! is required reading. Help them to out-think opinionated opponents, lousy leaders, ambitious advertisers, and slick salespeople. Raise your child to think for themselves so they Don't Get Fooled!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

My pre-teen and I were lucky enough to read a draft of this book, and I've just ordered the printed copy. Are your reasoning skills solid? Are your arguments honest? This book names many forms of flawed reasoning and illustrates them with fun examples. Just knowing the many ways (it is surprising how many there are) that your thinking can go astray will improve your reasoning and debating skills. And in addition to making your thinking stronger, this book will (as the title suggests), help to innoculate you (and your kids) against manipulation by advertisers and others who want to fool you.

This should be required reading for parents and kids. What a great way to engage kids in epistemological skill sets. How do we know something to be true? Ray's work challenges us to take a closer look at how we answer this critical life long question.

My son loved that book - he wouldn't stop reading it, and re-read it 3 times. Now he tends to come back and take apart all the 'truth' they were fed in school. Clearly he acquired very useful skill.

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