

**THE LOGICAL FALLACIES AS ENCOUNTERED
IN THE EDITORIALS OF SURYA DAILY
NEWSPAPER**

A THESIS

**As a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in
English Language Teaching Faculty**



By:

IMELDA GANI SETIAWAN

1213000025

NO. DAFTAR	0638/04
TGL. SERAH	12-1-2005
DI	FKIP-12
NO. DAFTAR	FK-19
NO. DAFTAR	Set
NO. DAFTAR	l-1
NO. DAFTAR	1 (satu)

**UNIVERSITAS KATOLIK WIDYA MANDALA SURABAYA
FAKULTAS KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN
JURUSAN PENDIDIKAN BAHASA DAN SENI
PROGRAM STUDI PENDIDIKAN BAHASA INGGRIS
SEPTEMBER, 2004**

APPROVAL SHEET

(1)

This thesis entitled The Logical Fallacies as Encountered in the Editorials of Surya Daily Newspaper prepared and submitted by Imelda Gani Setiawan has been approved and accepted as partial fulfillment for the Sarjana Pendidikan degree in English Language Teaching by the following advisors.



Dr. Ignatius Harjanto
First Advisor



Drs. Stefanus Laga Tukan, M.Pd.
Second Advisor

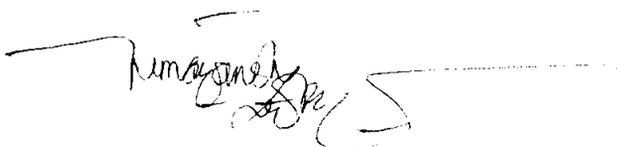
APPROVAL SHEET

(2)

This thesis has been examined by the committee of an Oral Examination with the grade of on 17th September 2004.



Dr. Agustinus Ngadiman
Chairman



Drs. B. Himawan S.W., M.Hum.
Member



Dra. Susana Teopilus, M.Pd.
Member



Dr. Ignatius Harjanto
Member



Drs. Stefanus Laga Tukan, M.Pd.
Member



Dr. Agustinus Ngadiman
Dean of the Teacher-Training Faculty

Approved by



Dra. Susana Teopilus, M.Pd.
Head of the English Department

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, the writer would like to thank the Almighty God, who has given her His blessing and guidance in bringing this thesis to accomplishment.

Her deepest gratitude also goes to the people who have been helpful in all sort of ways, by giving her the environment to work, and encouraging her to keep it up, despite all kinds of pressures that she faced:

1. Dr. Ignatius Harjanto and Drs. Stefanus Laga Tukan, M.Pd. who have spent their valuable time guiding and supervising her in carrying out of the study under report and the writing of this thesis.
2. Dr. Agustinus Ngadiman, Dra. Susana Teopilus, M.Pd., and Drs. B. Himawan S.W., M.Hum. for their valuable suggestion.
3. Davy Budiono, S.Pd. whose suggestion and support have encouraged the writer to start working on her thesis and finish it.
4. All lectures of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University for their guidance during her study there.
5. All the librarian personnel who have helped the writer to find the books and newspapers she needed.
6. All friends who have given supports and encouragement to the writer.
7. A special thank goes to her parents and brother for their prayers, deep understanding, and invaluable encouragement in the process of writing this thesis.

Last but not least, her appreciation is due to those who have not been included in this list, for their assistance in the completion of this thesis. Without them, the writer is certain that the writing of this thesis would never have been finished in its present form.

Surabaya, 9th September 2004

The Writer

TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPROVAL SHEET (1)	i
APPROVAL SHEET (2)	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	v
ABSTRACT	vii
CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background of the study	1
1.2 Statement of the problems	3
1.3 Objectives of the study	4
1.4 Significance of the study	4
1.5 Limitation of the study	4
1.6 Theoretical Framework	5
1.7 Definition of key terms	5
1.8 Organization of the study	6
CHAPTER II: REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE	7
2.1 Review of the previous related studies	7
2.2 Underlying Theories	11
2.2.1 Argument	11
2.2.2 Editorial Writing	23

CHAPTER III: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	26
3.1 Nature of the study	26
3.2 Research design	26
3.3 Source of the study	29
3.4 Instruments of the study	29
3.5 Data Collection Procedure	29
3.6 Data Analysis Procedure	30
CHAPTER IV: FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION OF THE FINDINGS	33
4.1 Findings	33
4.1.1 Faulty Reasoning	33
4.1.2 Fallacies of Grounding	37
4.1.3 Misdirection	37
4.1.4 Fallacies of Language Use	38
4.2 Discussion of the Findings	40
CHAPTER V: CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS	43
5.1 Conclusions	43
5.2 Suggestions	44
REFERENCES	
APPENDICES	
Appendix 1	
Appendix 2	

ABSTRACT

Setiawan, Imelda Gani, 2004. **The Logical Fallacies as Encountered in the Editorials of Surya Daily Newspaper**. Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa dan Seni, Jurusan Bahasa Inggris. Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan Universitas Katolik Widya Mandala Surabaya.

Advisors:

Dr. Ignatius Harjanto

Drs. Stefanus Laga Tukan, M.Pd.

Newspaper reading has become a part of human life since a newspaper serves the readers with the latest information. A newspaper has various columns one of which is the newspaper editorial which is considered as the center of the newspaper, for its function is to mold public opinion. Ideally, an editorial represents the writer's good reasoning. However, the editorial writers, being conscious or not, may make fallacious arguments in their efforts to influence the readers' beliefs.

To prove this statement, the writer analyzed 42 editorials of Surya Daily Newspaper applying Warnick and Inch Classification of Logical Fallacies. The result is that four major types of logical fallacies (Faulty Reasoning, Grounding Fallacy, Misdirection and Language Use Fallacy) and seven sub-types of logical fallacies were identified. These sub-types of logical fallacy are presented below starting from the biggest to the smallest in percentage. They are, Emotive Language, Slippery Slope, Non-Sequitur, False Cause, Hasty Generalization, False Analogy, and Straw Argument. As such, this study has answered the first research question which reads: "What types of logical fallacies are found in the editorial of Surya Daily Newspaper." Besides, this study also found that the most frequent logical fallacy encountered is the use of Emotive Language (46.03%) which in turn, answers the second research question which reads: "Which type of logical fallacy is mostly encountered in the editorials of Surya Daily Newspaper." This shows that the writers of the editorials under study, even though they are professional writers, still make logical fallacies in making arguments, especially in using expressions which show their feelings more than their logical reasoning.

In line with the findings of this study, the writer would like to give some suggestions to the editorial writers, the readers of newspaper in general and Surya Daily Newspapers readers in particular, the students taking Argumentative Writing and the teachers of Argumentative Writing. First, the editorial writers should be careful in choosing and using words which are neutral to the context. Second, the Newspaper readers in general and Surya Daily Newspaper readers in particular should be critical, in order to protect themselves from false claims, questionable judgments, and confusing or deceptive arguments. Third, the students taking Argumentative Writing are advised to read Logic or reasoning books, so that they are able to recognize fallacious arguments and to make logical arguments. Fourth, the teachers of Argumentative Writing should introduce kinds of logical fallacies to their students because by knowing various kinds of logical fallacies, the students will hopefully stay away from making fallacious arguments in their compositions. Finally, this study is far from being perfect. There are still several questions unsatisfactorily answered such as; "Why do the writers of the editorials under

study mostly make the fallacy of Emotive Language? Why do they make the fallacies of False Analogy and Straw Argument the least?" Further research to answer problems of this kind are suggested.