



Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority

By Douglas Walton

Download now

Read Online →

Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority By Douglas Walton

A new pragmatic approach, based on the latest developments in argumentation theory, analyzing appeal to expert opinion as a form of argument.

Reliance on authority has always been a common recourse in argumentation, perhaps never more so than today in our highly technological society when knowledge has become so specialized—as manifested, for instance, in the frequent appearance of "expert witnesses" in courtrooms. When is an appeal to the opinion of an expert a reasonable type of argument to make, and when does it become a fallacy? This book provides a method for the evaluation of these appeals in everyday argumentation.

Specialized domains of knowledge such as science, medicine, law, and government policy have gradually taken over as the basis on which many of our rational decisions are made daily. Consequently, appeal to expert opinion in these areas has become a powerful type of argument. Challenging an argument based on expert scientific opinion, for example, has become as difficult as it once was to question religious authority.

Walton stresses that even in cases where expert opinion is divided, the effect of it can still be so powerful that it overwhelms an individual's ability to make a decision based on personal deliberation of what is right or wrong in a given situation. The book identifies the requirements that make an appeal to expert opinion a reasonable or unreasonable argument. Walton's new pragmatic approach analyzes that appeal as a distinctive form of argument, with an accompanying set of appropriate critical questions matching the form. Throughout the book, a historical survey of the key developments in the evolution of the argument from authority, dating from the time of the ancients, is given, and new light is shed on current problems of "junk science" and battles between experts in legal argumentation.

↓ [Download Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authori ...pdf](#)

Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority

By Douglas Walton

Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority By Douglas Walton

A new pragmatic approach, based on the latest developments in argumentation theory, analyzing appeal to expert opinion as a form of argument.

Reliance on authority has always been a common recourse in argumentation, perhaps never more so than today in our highly technological society when knowledge has become so specialized—as manifested, for instance, in the frequent appearance of "expert witnesses" in courtrooms. When is an appeal to the opinion of an expert a reasonable type of argument to make, and when does it become a fallacy? This book provides a method for the evaluation of these appeals in everyday argumentation.

Specialized domains of knowledge such as science, medicine, law, and government policy have gradually taken over as the basis on which many of our rational decisions are made daily. Consequently, appeal to expert opinion in these areas has become a powerful type of argument. Challenging an argument based on expert scientific opinion, for example, has become as difficult as it once was to question religious authority.

Walton stresses that even in cases where expert opinion is divided, the effect of it can still be so powerful that it overwhelms an individual's ability to make a decision based on personal deliberation of what is right or wrong in a given situation. The book identifies the requirements that make an appeal to expert opinion a reasonable or unreasonable argument. Walton's new pragmatic approach analyzes that appeal as a distinctive form of argument, with an accompanying set of appropriate critical questions matching the form. Throughout the book, a historical survey of the key developments in the evolution of the argument from authority, dating from the time of the ancients, is given, and new light is shed on current problems of "junk science" and battles between experts in legal argumentation.

Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority By Douglas Walton Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #2968301 in Books
- Published on: 1997-10-13
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x 1.94" w x 6.00" l, 1.05 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 296 pages

 [Download Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authori ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority By Douglas Walton

Editorial Review

About the Author

Douglas N. Walton is Professor of Philosophy at the University of Winnipeg. He has published two books with Penn State Press, *The Place of Emotion in Argument* (1992) and *Arguments from Ignorance* (1995). Other recent books of his include *Slippery Slope Arguments* (1992) and *Plausible Arguments in Everyday Conversation* (1992).

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jeffrey Roybal:

The book Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority give you a sense of feeling enjoy for your spare time. You can use to make your capable far more increase. Book can for being your best friend when you getting anxiety or having big problem with your subject. If you can make reading a book Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority to become your habit, you can get more advantages, like add your own capable, increase your knowledge about many or all subjects. It is possible to know everything if you like open up and read a publication Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority. Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science guide or encyclopedia or some others. So , how do you think about this publication?

Charles Jose:

Here thing why that Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority are different and reliable to be yours. First of all reading a book is good but it depends in the content from it which is the content is as tasty as food or not. Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority giving you information deeper and different ways, you can find any reserve out there but there is no book that similar with Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority. It gives you thrill looking at journey, its open up your personal eyes about the thing that happened in the world which is might be can be happened around you. You can actually bring everywhere like in park your car, café, or even in your means home by train. For anyone who is having difficulties in bringing the printed book maybe the form of Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority in e-book can be your alternative.

Amanda Doss:

Do you certainly one of people who can't read satisfying if the sentence chained from the straightway, hold on guys that aren't like that. This Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority book is readable through you who hate those perfect word style. You will find the info here are arrange for enjoyable reading through experience without leaving perhaps decrease the knowledge that want to give to you. The writer

connected with Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority content conveys thinking easily to understand by many people. The printed and e-book are not different in the content material but it just different such as it. So , do you nevertheless thinking Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority is not loveable to be your top collection reading book?

Kimberly Casselman:

What is your hobby? Have you heard that will question when you got scholars? We believe that that query was given by teacher to their students. Many kinds of hobby, Everyone has different hobby. And you know that little person like reading or as reading through become their hobby. You must know that reading is very important as well as book as to be the factor. Book is important thing to incorporate you knowledge, except your own teacher or lecturer. You discover good news or update with regards to something by book. Amount types of books that can you go onto be your object. One of them is Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority.

Download and Read Online Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority By Douglas Walton #YRJ3XQV07KU

Read Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority By Douglas Walton for online ebook

Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority By Douglas Walton Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority By Douglas Walton books to read online.

Online Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority By Douglas Walton ebook PDF download

Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority By Douglas Walton Doc

Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority By Douglas Walton Mobipocket

Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority By Douglas Walton EPub

YRJ3XQV07KU: Appeal to Expert Opinion: Arguments from Authority By Douglas Walton