
10 Signs of Intellectual Dishonesty

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A new [blog by A.robustus](#) takes a very interesting twist on the Ten Signs of Intellectual Honesty. A. robustus writes:

I did a search of the web to see what information was available to an inquisitive reader trying to learn more about the intellectual honesty concept. There's quite a lot – much of it, unsurprisingly, from colleges and universities from all over the world. The stand-out candidate appears to be [10 Signs of Intellectual Honesty](#) available from the website of one Mike Gene.

While Mike Gene is an intelligent design apologist (who is bound to become the focus of future posts!), I have to admit that his 10 Signs post is splendid. Looking at the number of others who have linked to this particular page I am not alone in that assessment. I recommend it to anybody who is searching for a checklist to ensure that their argument is developed and progresses from a foundation of intellectual honesty.

A. robustus then offers his/her clever twist by outlining the 10 Signs of Intellectual Dishonesty:

1. **Arrogance or “I am the messenger of truth”**
2. **Handwaving or “Your views have no merit”.**
3. **Unwavering commitment or “I know I am right – why bother arguing?”**
4. **Avoiding/Ignoring the question or “ . . . and let's not forget about . . .”**
5. **Never admitting error or “I am/We are right – regardless of your evidence”.**
6. **Employing double standards or “Your evidence is unacceptable (because it's your evidence)”.**
7. ***Argumentum ad hominem* or “You're a [insert label/stereotype here] . . . and you have a secret agenda”**
8. **Destroying a straw man or “You might say that, but how do you explain . . . ?”.**
9. **Ignoring the principles of critical thinking.**
10. **Ignoring [partial] defeat or See Sign #1**

I encourage you to check out his/her blog for brief explanations of each sign.

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