My Understanding

Name

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Course

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A logical fallacy is the presence of an error in the presentation of an argument. Two major categories exist – formal and informal fallacies. We shall focus on informal fallacies which take place due to errors in reasoning. These errors occur as a result of the premises failing to provide enough reasons for the truth to be believable (Lumen, n.d.). An example of a logical fallacy is seen in the following picture which depicts a common message that often accompanies many messages on social media.

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There are various forms of informal fallacies. The logical fallacy presented above is an equivocation or ambiguity kind of informal fallacy. This results when there is use of an ambiguous term in the phrase of argument that may create more than one meaning. As such, there is the presentation of a problem that has no solid base by which to support the propositions. As such, there is the realization that if one does not forward the message to the friends there may be a consequence but the conclusion that a tragic consequence may happen within the next 24 hours has no valid basis.

The consequence of the fallacy is that the message that was intended to be passed to various people may be diluted. Since the fallacy creates a situation in which there is no basis for concrete conclusions, the receivers of the message only view the message as a threat or arm twisting to meet the ends of the person that sends it. This creates a null situation for all the people who logically analyze the message. As such, there is no concrete end result as the audience may ignore the message despite the intention being noble.

References

Lumen. (n.d*.). Informal Fallacies*. Retrieved from https://courses.lumenlearning.com/suny-publicspeakingprinciples/chapter/chapter-6-informal-fallacies/#:~:text=An%20informal%20fallacy%20occurs%20because,the%20content%20of%20the%20premises.