Lecture 15
Additional Examples

Michael Jordan says Spray-o-Vac batteries help save the environment. So I don’t buy any other brand.

Pram oil filters: pay a little more now, or pay a lot more later.

If we legalize euthanasia for elderly people who want to die, then what about cases where the person can’t speak? Then it will be made a law that if the relatives think that the person would want to be put to death, then they will be euthanized. Then any time an old person becomes a burden, their children will just take them down to the hospital to have them killed.

As the number of laws on the book has increased over the past 50 years, the number of crimes committed has also increased. So if we cut down on the number of new laws, we will reduce crime.

Some parents in the district think we should provide bilingual education in Spanish. We cannot do this. If we do, then some will ask for bilingual education in Greek, and then in German and Japanese. Next it will be Hungarian and Polish. These programs would be far too expensive to maintain.
If we allow Clinton to get off, then we will be eroding the ethical fabric of the office. Future Presidents will know that they can just lie and obstruct justice without repercussions, and so they will abuse the power of office. Before long, we will be living in a dictatorship in which the President will have absolute control over everything.

Beer magnate Bubby Busch has argued that government should get off the back of business. But without government, there would be no legal system, no defense, no Social Security program. None of us wants to lose those benefits. Busch is clearly wrong.

Of course there is a God! Every attempted atheistic argument has failed.

How dare you criticize my logic! You commit fallacies left and right!

You should have your brakes checked. It sounds like they are about ready to go, and if they do, you will likely crash your car and get injured.

I’m sure you’ll agree that Stephanie Pinkley’s book is the best one you’ve reviewed and should be accepted for publication, rather than the one by Rock van der Huge. After all, Pinkley is a good friend of mine, and I will be reviewing your own book in The New York Times next month.
Either you get an Alpine CD changer, or you have a second rate system that won’t impress your friends.

Today is Monday, and I crashed my car. Last Monday my boyfriend dumped me for my younger sister. I think I’ll kill myself before next Monday so nothing else rotten happens.

Rent with Hertz, or get stuck in the rain and pay too much and lose the big company contract.

Happy Birthday sweetie! I got you a CD by the Oakridge Boys. They have long hair and guitars just like those other bands you like -- you know, Metallica and Korn.

If a car breaks down on the highway, nobody expects any passing mechanic to just stop and fix it for free. So why should we expect physicians to render emergency medical assistance for free?

Of course abortion is permissible! A woman has a right to do what she wants with her own body!
Of course abortion is wrong! It’s always wrong to kill another person!

You can hardly convince me that increases in the military budget are desirable when I happen to know that you work in a munitions factory.

The budget deficit was reduced after only a few years with a Republican Congress. So if we want to keep the budget under control, we need to elect another Republican Congress.

You should not find the defendant guilty of murder, since it would break his poor mother's heart to see him sent to jail.

Smith, Adams, and Harris all outlived their wives, and their wives were younger than they were. It must be the case that men outlive women these days.

A recent study has shown that among the youth of our city, 80 percent of those who contracted venereal disease last year had taken sex education classes in high school. Obviously if we want to cut down on the incidence of VD we must get rid of those sex education classes.
The Soviet Union collapsed after instituting state atheism. Therefore we must avoid atheism for the same reasons.

The only policy that effectively reduces public shootings is right-to-carry laws. Allowing citizens to carry concealed handguns reduces violent crime. In the 31 states that have passed right-to-carry laws since the mid-1980s, the number of multiple-victim public shootings and other violent crimes has dropped dramatically. Murders fell by 7.65%, rapes by 5.2%, aggravated assaults by 7%, and robberies by 3%.

To cast abortion as a solely private moral question,...is to lose touch with common sense: How human beings treat one another is practically the definition of a public moral matter. Of course, there are many private aspects of human relations, but the question whether one human being should be allowed fatally to harm another is not one of them. Abortion is an inescapably public matter.

You know, that salami really makes people sick. So it's obvious that Dante ate the salami - he's sick, isn't he?

The body politic, like any other body, works best when there is a clear brain directing it. This is why authoritarian governments are more efficient.

Pete: I’m telling you, magnet therapy works. Paul: That’s ridiculous. There have been no legitimate medical studies that demonstrate the effectiveness of magnet therapy.
Whenever we drive to Murphy’s Bar, we always get into an accident on the way back. It’s getting to be too much. Next time we’re going to go to some other bar.

Sure, you start by eliminating prayer in public schools. Pretty soon, any mention of god or religion in school is forbidden. And then they’ll say you can’t mention those things in any public place. Before you know it, they ban religion entirely and tear down the churches. You don’t want America to turn into Soviet Russia, do you?

Mary: That wall doesn’t look very solid. Are you sure it’s safe?
Lisa: Oh, absolutely. We used the best bricks money can buy. They’re practically indestructible.

Communism is a terrible way to structure a society because a good society must respect individual property rights.

Anne: That’s a really cute dog. What breed do you think it is?
Bob: It’s a Dalmatian.
Anne: Really? How do you know?
Bob: Well, look at all the spots. All Dalmatians have spots.

A Bentley is a real status symbol. Very few people can afford one.
Ben: How come I didn’t get invited to your party?
Sally: Because you’re the most boring person I’ve ever met. And you always smell like crap.

I think your new theory of gravitation is wrong. I asked my physics professor, and he said it doesn’t make any sense.

You worked for Enron? My dad owned stocks in that company, and he lost a lot of money because of Enron’s lies. How could you do something so vile and deceitful? Have you no shame? You need to apologize to my dad.

You should work real hard on this project. If you don’t, you might not get that promotion you’ve been angling for. And without the promotion, you won’t be able to afford that new car you wanted. Your wife has really been looking forward to that new car. You don’t want to disappoint her, do you?

I think I’d be the perfect candidate for this job. You’ve got to give me a break. My girlfriend just dumped me and I don’t think I’d be able to stand another rejection.

The senator is wrong when he says teachers shouldn’t be allowed to strike. Perhaps the senator doesn’t realize just how influential the teacher’s union is in his state. If he continues to spout this rubbish, he may find it difficult to get re-elected.