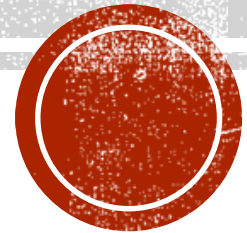


TRANSCENDENTAL ARGUMENT

-Jason Mullett



TRANSCENDENTAL DEFINITION

- Transcendental
 - beyond the contingent and accidental in human experience, but not beyond all human knowledge.
 - abstract, metaphysical, conceptual .
 - being beyond ordinary or common experience, thought, or belief
 - categories that have universal application, as being, one, true, good.



SYLLOGISM

- A form of reasoning in which a conclusion is drawn from two given or assumed premises (Propositions), each of which shares a term with the conclusion, and shares a common term not present in the conclusion
 - All A is B (Major Premise)
 - C is A (Minor Premise)
 - Therefore C is B (Conclusion)

- All men are mortal
- Socrates is a man
- Therefore Socrates is mortal



SYLLOGISM

- A is necessary for B (Major Premise)
 - B exists (Minor Premise)
 - Therefore A exists (Conclusion)
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- A pilot is necessary for an airplane to fly
 - The airplane is flying
 - Therefore there is a pilot



ATTACKS

- A pilot is necessary for an airplane to fly
 - Attack: There are unmanned airplanes
 - Response: Unmanned airplanes still have a pilot on the ground
 - Attack: There are airplanes flown by computers
 - Response: The computer (created by a human) is the pilot
- The airplane is flying
 - Attack: The airplane is not flying
 - Response: look up there it is



TAG (KNOWLEDGE)

- The Christian God is necessary to justify knowledge
- People have knowledge
- Therefore God exists

- Omniscience is necessary to justify knowledge
- People have knowledge
- Therefore there is Omniscience



ATTACKS

- **The Christian God is necessary to justify knowledge**
 - **Attack: We can know things without God, I know things and I don't believe in God.**
 - **Response: Red herring – the argument is not that belief in God has to be claimed to justify knowledge.**
 - **Attack: We can know things without God after all I know things and there is no God.**
 - **Response: Begging the question – The answer assumes that God does not exist. How do you justify knowing things without omniscience?**
- **People have knowledge**
 - **Attack: People don't know anything**
 - **Response: Self-refuting statement - How then do you know that people don't know anything?**



ATTACKS

- Omniscience is necessary to justify knowledge
 - Attack: We can know things to be true without omniscience
 - Response: In the knowledge that you do not possess would it be possible for there to be knowledge that contradicts what you think you know to be true? The only way to have certain knowledge is to know everything. Knowledge is only true knowledge if it is in fact true, if something does contradict it then it is no longer knowledge. If you cannot know if there is something that contradicts a knowledge claim then you cannot know if it is true knowledge.



TAG (LAWS OF LOGIC)

- The Christian God is necessary to justify the Laws of Logic
- There are Laws of Logic
- Therefore God exists



ATTACKS

- **The Christian God is necessary to justify the Laws of Logic**
 - **Attack: The Laws of Logic are properties of the universe**
 - **Response: Properties can be measured, how can you measure the Laws of Logic. Can the Universe both exist and not exist at the same time?**
- **There are Laws of Logic**
 - **Attack: The Laws of Logic are not objective but conventional**
 - **Response: So different societies can adopt different Laws of Logic. Can a car both exist and not exist at the same time and in the same place within different societies?**



TAG (OBJECTIVE LAWS OF MORALITY)

- The Christian God is necessary to justify the objective Laws of Morality
- There are objective Laws of Morality
- Therefore God exists



ATTACKS

- The Christian God is necessary to justify the objective Laws of Morality
 - Attack: Morality is determined by society.
 - Response: Another atheist says that morality is subjective is he objectively wrong and your position is objectively true. If he is objectively wrong where do you get that objective truth? If he is not objectively wrong then your morality is just as subjective as his.
- There are objective Laws of Morality
 - Attack: Morality is not objective it is subjective.
 - Response: Is it right then if I steal your car?



TAG (UNIFORMITY IN NATURE)

- The Christian God is necessary to justify uniformity in Nature
- Nature is uniform
- Therefore God exists



ATTACKS

- The Christian God is necessary to justify uniformity in Nature
 - Attack: We know nature is uniform because it has always been that way
 - Response: Begging the Question – You are assuming the Uniformity of Nature to be true. I am not asking how it has been in the past I am asking you to justify your confidence why it will be uniform in the future.
- Nature is uniform
 - Attack: Nature is not uniform
 - Response: Absurd



TAG (REASON)

- The Christian God is necessary to justify the ability to reason
- People have the ability to reason
- Therefore God exists



ATTACKS

- The Christian God is necessary to justify the ability to reason
 - Attack: I know my reasoning works because it has always worked for me in the past.
 - Response: Begging the Question – You are assuming the validity of your reasoning because you have to use your reasoning to evaluate whether it has worked for you in the past.
- People have the ability to reason
 - Attack: People do not have the ability to reason
 - Response: Absurd, how did you reason to that conclusion?



OTHER TRANSCENDENTALS

- Love
- Personhood
- Communication
- Sentience
- Justice
- Consciousness



DISJUNCTIVE SYLLOGISM

- A form of reasoning in which one of two propositions must be true. If one of the propositions is proved invalid the other by necessity must be true.
 - Either P or Q
 - Not P
 - Therefore Q

- It is either red or blue
- It is not blue
- Therefore it is red



TAG (DISJUNCTIVE SYLLOGISM)

- Either the Christian God exists or does not exist
- The Christian God not existing does not account for transcendentals
- Therefore the Christian God exists

