

Argumentation Patterns Employed in Opposition to Last Generation Theology

STEP 1	<p>False stories about the origination of LGT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> == LGT is a misinterpretation of Ellen G. White == LGT is a misrepresentation of the Bible == M.L. Andreasen invented LGT == LGT mysteriously began only in the 1930s == LGT did not exist before 1888 and Jones and Waggoner 	<p>This step attempts to reframe history to disassociate LGT from the Seventh-day Adventist Church in order to delegitimize</p>
STEP 2	<p>Misrepresentation of the purpose of LGT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> == LGT is about personal salvation == LGT is about reaching a state of perfection == Jesus already vindicated God and LGT tries to add to that == False definitions of perfection, etc. offered == Uses terms not used by the historic authors to misrepresent 	<p>Attempts to truncate or redefine LGT, making it emphasize personal salvation or perfection, rather than vindicating God's name</p>
STEP 3	<p>Ridicule</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> == Making light of LGT and portraying adherents as legalistic 	<p>An attempt to prevent serious consideration</p>
STEP 4	<p>Anecdotal argument</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> == Allegedly person A did X because they held to LGT. That is, speculation, insinuation. == Alleges moral inconsistency in experience of person Y 	<p>Anecdotal items cannot be immediately verified</p>
STEP 5	<p>Psychological argument</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> == LGT leads to pride == LGT leads to despair == LGT leads to a judgmental spirit == LGT leads to legalism 	<p>Arguments that typically require the use of a mind-reading machine, crystal ball, or engage in wild dot-connecting</p>
STEP 6	<p>Experiential argument</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> == Author repudiating LGT claims to have previously supported it == Are you perfect? == Have you ever met someone who is perfect? 	<p>Requires ability to access and rightly interpret ultimate information</p>
STEP 7	<p>Manipulative use of evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> == Use Bible and/or EGW materials selectively (Avoid Lev 16; Job 1, 2; Mt 5:48; Mk 4:26-28; Ro 3:4; 8:1-4, 18-23; 12:1, 2; Phil 2; Heb 2, 8, 9; Rev 7:9, 13, 14; 12:17; 14:1-5; 6-12; 19:7, 8; 22: 11, 12, DA 761, 762, 764; COL 69; etc.) == Reinterpret close of probation, sealing, etc. 	<p>The crucial step. LGT stands or falls because of the inspired evidence and on no other basis</p>
STEP 8	<p>In contrast to the LGT “error,” presents the evangelical gospel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> == Teach erroneous view of what sin is == Teach erroneous view of justification, etc. 	<p>LGT cannot be harmonized with the false gospel</p>
STEP 9	<p>Appeal to scholarship/ecclesiastical authority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> == SDA Handbook of Theology, Andrews Study Bible, etc. 	<p>The search for or attempt to generate authority to suppress last generation theology</p>