Subject: To: SuperFlyingEngi - Please refute this Posted by cowmisfit on Fri, 28 Jan 2005 02:42:05 GMT

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JavaxcxcowmisfitJavaxcxThey're both ad hominem.

What the hell did you just say? Please define what that means, i've asked 5 or 6 people and they've never heard that.

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Translated from Latin to English, "Ad Hominem" means "against the man" or "against the person."

An Ad Hominem is a general category of fallacies in which a claim or argument is rejected on the basis of some irrelevant fact about the author of or the person presenting the claim or argument. Typically, this fallacy involves two steps. First, an attack against the character of person making the claim, her circumstances, or her actions is made (or the character, circumstances, or actions of the person reporting the claim). Second, this attack is taken to be evidence against the claim or argument the person in question is making (or presenting). This type of "argument" has the following form:

- 1. Person A makes claim X.
- 2. Person B makes an attack on person A.
- 3. Therefore A's claim is false.

The reason why an Ad Hominem (of any kind) is a fallacy is that the character, circumstances, or actions of a person do not (in most cases) have a bearing on the truth or falsity of the claim being made (or the quality of the argument being made).

No no no, your missing the point here.

Im telling the truth, he's father is instilling values that make him a horrid excuse for an American. His claim doesn't make mine false. I win.