



ARE NORMAL PEOPLE
ABLE TO REASON
INDUCTIVELY, OR NOT
REALLY...?

A column.



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I'm not going to dodge this question. Skepticism may be a useful attitude when reasoning with hypotheticals, yet I'm not claiming agnosticism right now.

The straight-up answer to the present question is "no, people cannot usually reason inductively."

The reason for this fact may be a certain form of vagueness in the way we're forming concepts.

If I am saying "things are really bad," what is it that you're going to do about it?

If, again, I'm saying "things are truly terribly bad," are you going to postpone your immediate action, or in fact act immediately as you should... who knows, really?? Perhaps you are in fact an optimist and I am not. Maybe the log is in my eye and not yours...

Suppose for the sake of the argument I am saying "all Masons are dirty donkeys..."

Well, I'm not actually saying that, since that would be a falsity, but suppose I'm saying it...

Are you going to reason inductively and say that “all Illuminati are dirty donkeys,” or that “all Salvation Army are dirty donkeys”?

And if you are in fact willing to say that “All Salvation Army and all Samaritans are dirty donkeys” then you could potentially make the unexpected leap and say that “all Quakers are dirty donkeys” which in turn would lead you into a falsity...

It is that sort of a “leap” that you’re tempted to make when reasoning with unknowns, also known as “generalization.”

Actually, out of all Masons that I did have the pleasure to meet, some of them were awesome people. Some...

It is a hard-felt fact that Propositional Logic doesn't allow for arguments involving majority/minority. So who knows, really now??

Are most Masons dirty donkeys?? Who knows.

Honestly!!



