

Why We Argue (And How We Should)

A Guide to Political Disagreement in an Age of Unreason

Second Edition

Scott F. Aikin and Robert B. Talisse

Second edition published 2019
by Routledge
711 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017

and by Routledge
2 Park Square, Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4RN

*Routledge is an imprint of the Taylor & Francis Group, an informa
business*

© 2019 Taylor & Francis

The right of Scott F. Aikin and Robert B. Talisse to be identified as
authors of this work has been asserted by them in accordance with
sections 77 and 78 of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reprinted or
reproduced or utilized in any form or by any electronic, mechanical, or
other means, now known or hereafter invented, including photocopying
and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system,
without permission in writing from the publishers.

Trademark notice: Product or corporate names may be trademarks or
registered trademarks, and are used only for identification and
explanation without intent to infringe.

First edition published 2014 by Routledge

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
A catalog record for this title has been requested

ISBN: 978-1-138-08741-5 (hbk)
ISBN: 978-1-138-08742-2 (pbk)
ISBN: 978-1-315-11049-3 (ebk)

Typeset in Times New Roman
by Taylor & Francis Books

Printed in Canada

Contents

<i>Praise for the First Edition</i>	xi
<i>Preface to the Second Edition</i>	xii
<i>Preface to the First Edition</i>	xvii
<i>Introduction</i>	xix

PART I

A Conception of Argument	1
1 Why Do We Argue?	3
2 Why Argument Matters	16
3 Public Argument in a Democratic Society	35
4 Deep Disagreements	53

PART II

Case Studies in Public Argument	65
5 The Simple Truth Thesis	67
6 Pushovers	77
7 Tone of Voice	93
8 The Surprising Truth about Hypocrisy	109
9 Arguments by Analogy	124
10 Argumentation Between the Ads	133
11 Language, Spin, and Framing	141
12 Argument Online	155

PART III

Repairing Public Argument 175

13 The Owl of Minerva Problem 177

14 Argumentative Responsibility and Argument Repair 188

15 Civility in Argument 208

Index 213