

Elements of Persuasion

OR HOW TO GET PEOPLE TO DO WHAT YOU WANT

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Persuasion

is the process by which a person's attitudes or behaviors are, without duress, influenced by communications from other people.



"The old persuasive approach is out. From now on, they put out their campfires or you <u>bite</u> them."

"Persuasion is often more effectual than force."

Aesop

The Rhetorical Triangle

- **1**. Ethos ήθος
- 2. Logos λόγος
- **3**. Pathos πάθος



"character, credibility"

Ethos

is the use of references to authority, experience, character, or integrity to build credibility.

Ed Sheeran x Heinz, 2019



LOGOS

"word, discourse, reason"

Logos

is the use of appeals to reason, making a logical argument with evidence and support.

Pedigree



Every dog deserves leading nutrition. From wet nose to wiggly butt.

New PEDIGREE. Our best food for our best friends.

PATHOS

"suffering, experience"

Pathos

is the use of emotion to appeal to the audience's sympathies, beliefs, and values.

Ogilvy x Coca Cola, 2014



They make us want to smooch, neck and kiss.











In Astronomy?

The elements of persuasion can be valuable teaching tools, from giving a colloquium talk to writing a grant proposal.

You need your audience to care, understand, and believe.





Each of the three elements of persuasion has a unique approach to engaging the audience.

Persuasion is a powerful art.



When all three elements are combined, the rhetor's argument is strengthened.



Aristotle., et al. Rhetoric. New York, Modern Library, 1984.

Heinrichs, Jay. Thank You for Arguing: What Aristotle, Lincoln, and Homer Simpson Can Teach Us About the Art of Persuasion. New York, Three Rivers Press, 2007.

https://www.amanet.org/articles/three-elements-of-persuasion/

