

Barriers to Critical & Creative Thinking

lack of relevant background information

poor reading skills

bias

prejudice

superstition

egocentrism (self-centered thinking)

sociocentrism (group-centered thinking)

peer pressure

conformism

provincialism

narrow-mindedness

close-mindedness

distrust in reason

relativistic thinking

stereotyping

unwarranted assumptions

scapegoating

rationalization

denial

wishful thinking

short-term thinking

selective perception

selective memory

overpowering emotions

self-deception

face-saving

fear of change

from *Critical Thinking: A Student's Introduction 3rd edition*)

A new idea is delicate. It can be killed by a sneer or a yawn; it can be stabbed to death by a joke or worried to death by a frown on the right person's brow. ~ Charles Brower

by Bassham, Irwin, Nardone, and Wallace

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