***Special Methods of Refutation***

*Identify the method of refutation revealed in each of the following argument examples:*

1. **It may be true that 10 people died last year because of faulty garage door openers, but if you examine the trend within the last five years the deaths are decreasing.**
2. **Ashley claims to be a very strong advocate for freedom of speech. However, she also claims that individuals espousing what she considers to be racist, sexist, or homophobic rhetoric should not be allowed to speak in public.**
3. **Tanisha argues that we should allow doctors and families to make decisions to stop all life support and let a terminally ill patient die with dignity. Carla counters with argumentative questions such as, “Who will be next? Will we choose to eliminate all the old, the disabled, the poor, the sick, people with brown hair, people with low intelligence, or people whose last name begins with R? Where will it stop?**
4. **Senator Tran claims that a system of merit pay will lead to more effective teaching. The National Education Association argues that since there is no effective way to administer merit pay, the result will be a decline in teacher effectiveness because of the tremendous morale problems created by the merit pay system.**
5. **Chris argues that the accuracy of drug testing is a priority and that society must look at that first. Pham would argue that testing can be implemented to deter drug use so accuracy would actually be irrelevant.**
6. **Abby claims that any restrictions on abortions is bad. On the one hand, many abortion clinics will close down and women will have to travel out of state or long distances to obtain an abortion. On the other hand, government efforts to set penalties will scare doctors causing fewer of them to participate in abortion---thus reducing the quality of care women receive.**