

# The Toulmin Model

How to Make an Effective Argument

# Why Argumentation?

Argumentation is the communicative process of advancing, supporting, criticizing, and modifying claims so that appropriate decision makers, defined by relevant spheres, may grant or deny adherence.

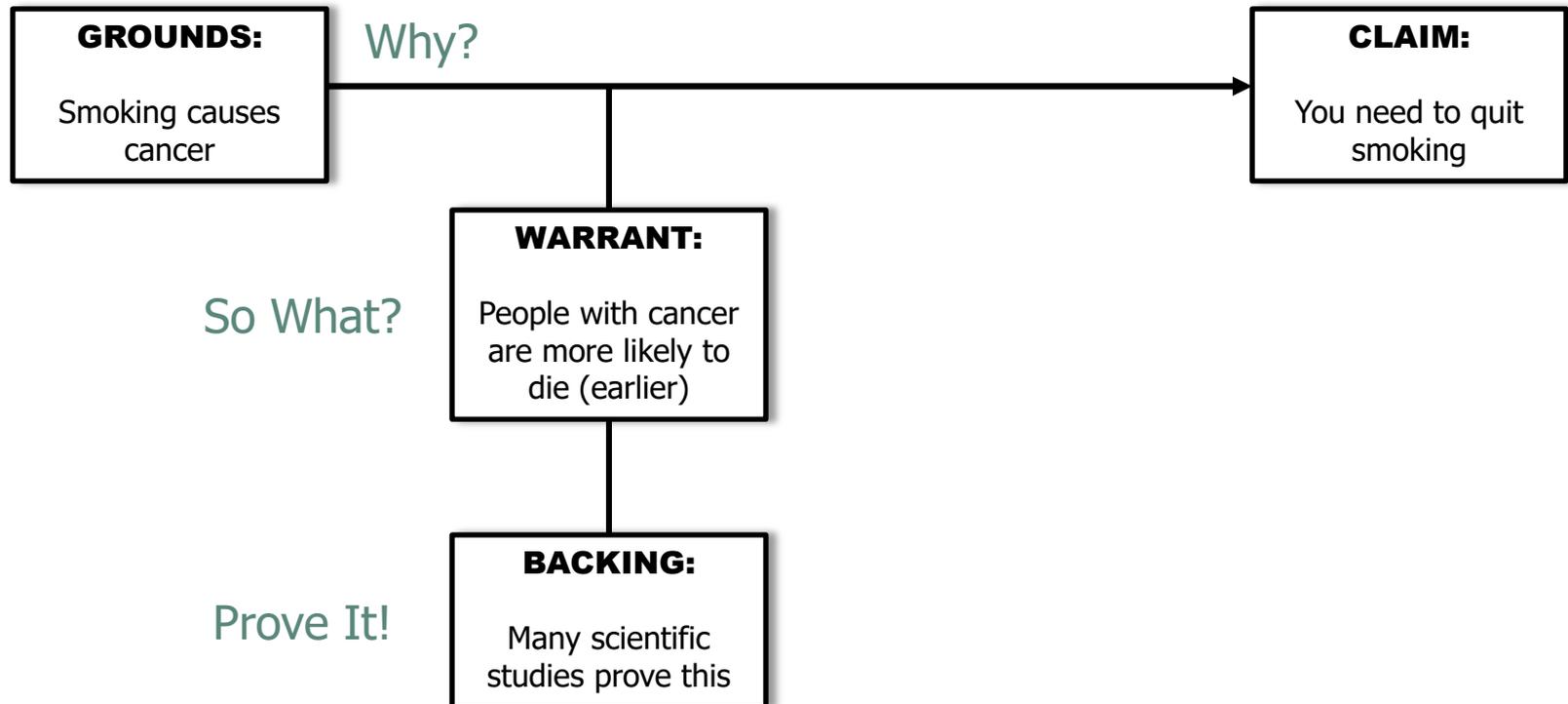
Rieke, Sillars, & Peterson

Argumentation and Critical Decision Making

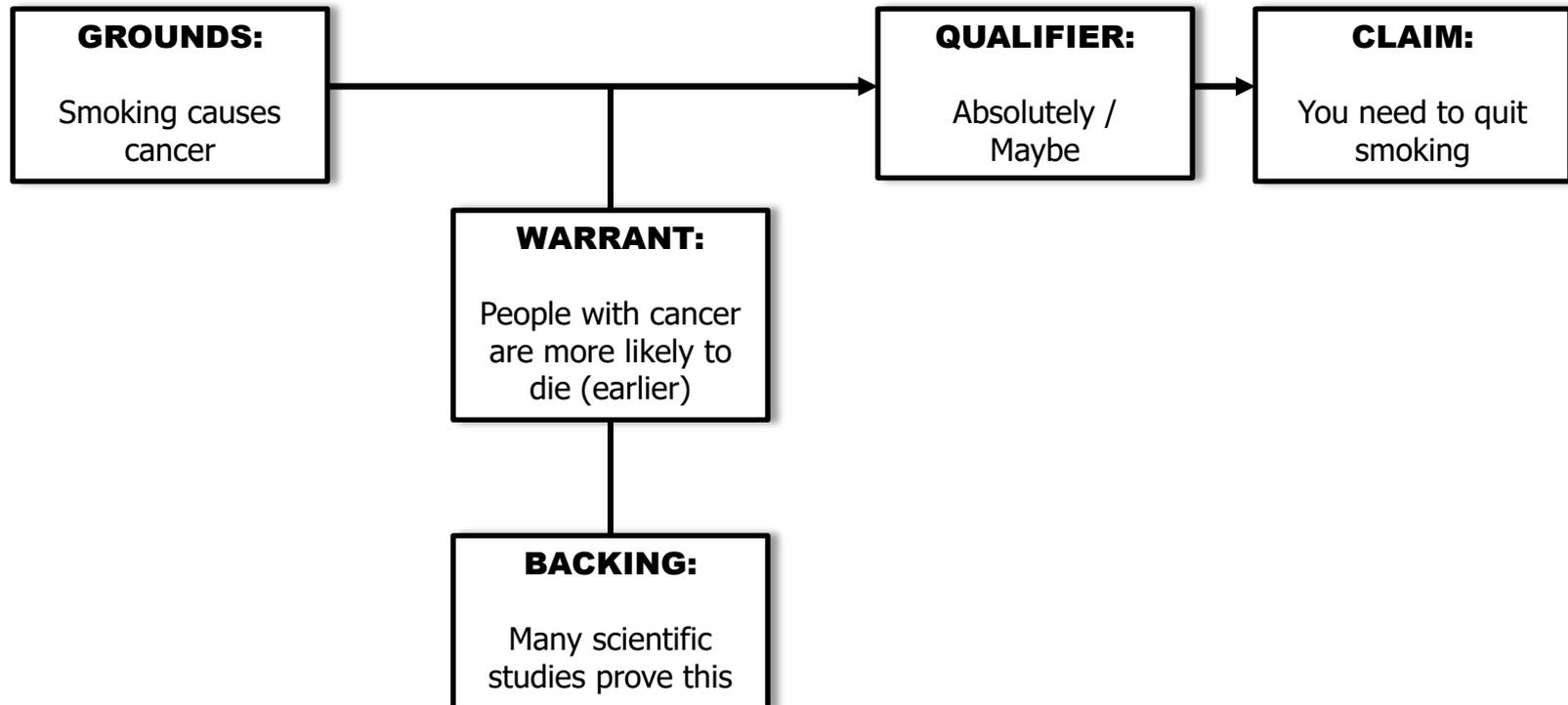
# Toulmin Model

- Claim – a conclusion; designed to convince the listener
- Grounds (Evidence) – the basis for the claim (addresses “why”)
- Warrant – bridges the ground-claim gap (addresses “so what”)
- Backing – credentials or facts that support the warrant (“prove it”)
- (Dis)Qualifier – the certainty of the claim
- Rebuttal – a restriction that can be applied to the claim

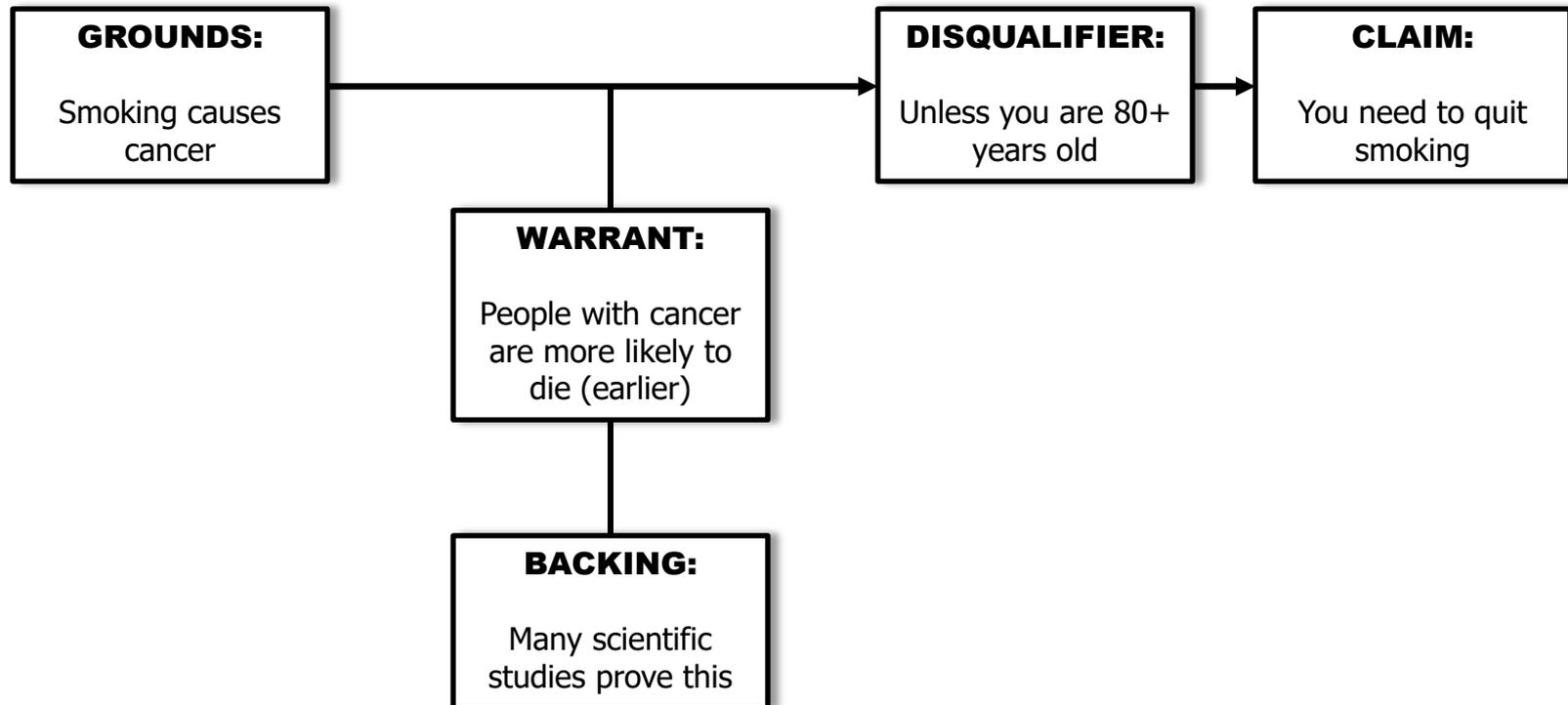
# Toulmin Model (Illustrated)



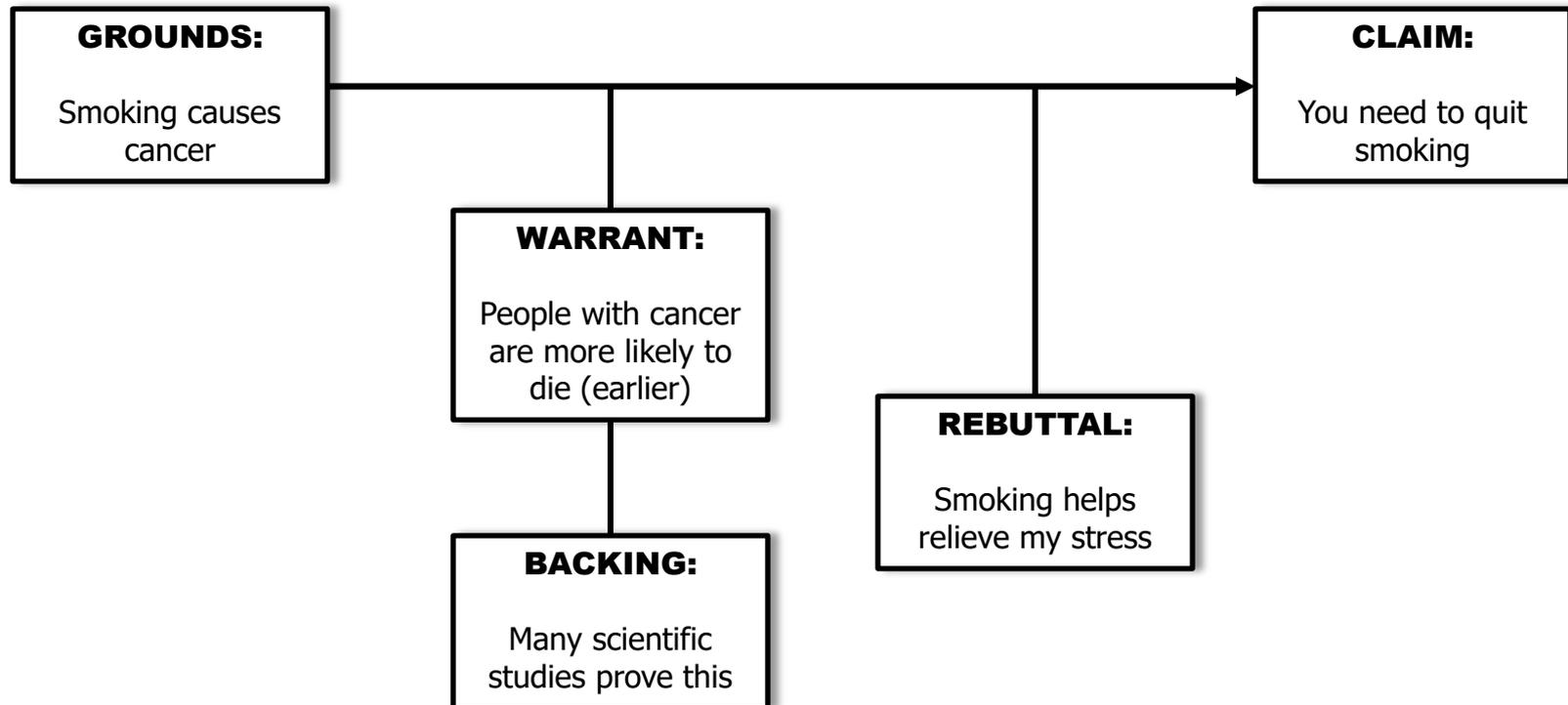
# Toulmin Model (Illustrated)



# Toulmin Model (Illustrated)



# Toulmin Model (Illustrated)



# Argumentation and Decision Making

Involves a process by which you seek the best possible choices within a context of uncertainty and ambiguity. The better you use the process, the better you are at making decisions.

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Argumentation and Critical Decision Making