

In your recent *Booknotes* conversation with Richard Holbrooke you said,
"That begs another question . . .,"
provoking a citation from *Contagious Diseases of the English Language*,
the manual for my challenge game *Ill Literacy*:

Every time I think "begging the question" has been relegated to its proper
obscure function, it turns up again. As noted in *Contagious Diseases of the
English Language*, the manual for my challenge game *Ill Literacy*, "begging the
question" is a technical term in logic, where question is the issue under debate
and begging the question is an inept translation meaning "assuming the truth
of the position you are professing to prove" (see dic.)

How about just posing, raising or just asking the question?

Everearefully,

WALNUT CREEK CA 94596-2564

O.BK



Brian Lamb c/o Booknotes
400 N CAPITOL ST
WASHINGTON DC 20001

