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**Abstract:** The article explores what divides the works and concepts of two philosophers C. I. Lewis and Charles Peirce on the subject of classical pragmatism. The received view of Lewis' epistemology is that it is foundationalist, that is, Cartesian. Lewis' Cartesianism runs headlong into Peirce's anti-Cartesianism. Arguing against a sensationalistic theory of belief, Peirce seized yet another opportunity to support the public character of belief.

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