

'Assertion' (pub. 23.09.14-16:32). Quote in M. Bergman & S. Paavola (Eds.), *The Commens Dictionary: Peirce's Terms in His Own Words. New Edition*. Retrieved from <http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-letters-william-james-22>.

---

**Term:** Assertion

**Quote:** ...an assertion belongs to the class of phenomena like going before a notary and making an affidavit, executing a deed, signing a note, of which the essence is that one voluntarily puts oneself into a situation in which penalties will be incurred unless some proposition is true. One may maintain that every proposition involves an assertion. Very likely that may be true as a psychological truth; but if so the element of assertion is frequently altogether or in great degree inhibited and disavowed. I have nothing further to say about assertion.

**Source:** Peirce, C. S. (nd). *Letters to William James*.

**References:** CP 8.313

**Date of** 1905-01-22

**Quote:**

**URL:** <http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-letters-william-james-22>