

'Belief' (pub. 20.03.13-19:41). 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-what-pragmatism-1>.

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**Term:** Belief

**Quote:** Belief is not a momentary mode of consciousness; it is a habit of mind essentially enduring for some time, and mostly (at least) unconscious; and like other habits, it is (until it meets with some surprise that begins its dissolution) perfectly self-satisfied. Doubt is of an altogether contrary genus. It is not a habit, but the privation of a habit. Now a privation of a habit, in order to be anything at all, must be a condition of erratic activity that in some way must get superseded by a habit.

**Source:** Peirce, C. S. (1905). What Pragmatism Is. *The Monist*, 15, 161-181.

**References:** CP 5.417

**Date of** 1905

**Quote:**

**URL:** <http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-what-pragmatism-1>