

'Individuality' (pub. 20.08.15-13:28). 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-abstracts-8-lectures-0>.

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**Term:** Individuality

**Quote:** The word *individuality* applied to *thisness* involves a one-sided conception of the matter, as if unity and segregation were its characteristic. But this is not so. Segregate unity belongs to immediate consciousness, to quality; and wherever it appears that is its real origin. The true characteristic of *thisness* is duality; and it is only when one member of the pair is considered exclusively that it appears as *individuality*.

But what is commonly in our minds when we speak of individuality is a positive repugnance to generality. Our thoughts are so impregnated with generality, that we look at everything from its standpoint. Instead of thinking of *thisness* as it is in itself and for itself, we think of it in its relation to generality.

**Source:** Peirce, C. S. (1897-8). *Abstracts of 8 Lectures*. MS [R] 942.

**References:** NEM 4:135-6

**Date of** 1897-8

**Quote:**

**URL:** <http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-abstracts-8-lectures-0>