

**ORIGIN**  
**of**  
**"WALLS HAVE EARS"**

**Compiled by**  
**Campbell M Gold**

CMG Archives  
<http://www.campbellmgold.com>

(2012)

--()--

**Introduction**

What is the origin of the phrase "walls have ears"?

**Walls have ears** - Things uttered in secret get rumoured abroad; there are listeners everywhere, and you'd better be careful.

Certain rooms in the Louvre were said to be so constructed in the time of Catherine de Médicis, that what was said in one room could be distinctly heard in another. It was by this contrivance that the suspicious queen became acquainted with state secrets and plots.

The tubes of communication were called *auricularies*.

End

--()--

<http://www.campbellmgold.com>

07092012