

## Ruby - Bug #12501

### Assignment to local variable itself doesn't occur an error

06/17/2016 07:32 PM - scorix@gmail.com (Yu Zhang)

<b>Status:</b>	Rejected	<b>Backport:</b> 2.1: UNKNOWN, 2.2: UNKNOWN, 2.3: UNKNOWN
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal	
<b>Assignee:</b>		
<b>Target version:</b>		
<b>ruby -v:</b>	2.3.0	
<b>Description</b>		
For example:		
<pre>a = b # =&gt; undefined local variable or method `b' for main:Object (NameError)</pre>		
but		
<pre>a = a # =&gt; nil a = a.merge({}) # =&gt; undefined method `merge' for nil:NilClass (NoMethodError)</pre>		
The a after = is an undefined local variable, I think it should raise a NameError, but it only returns a nil value.		
Is this a feature or bug?		

### History

#### #1 - 06/17/2016 08:18 PM - shevegen (Robert A. Heiler)

I think it is neither a feature nor a bug but simply a consequence of how the ruby parser (or was it the lexer or scanner) reads/parses the code. The pickaxe mentioned that once, if I remember correctly.

#### #2 - 06/17/2016 11:15 PM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

- Description updated

- Status changed from Open to Rejected