

ABSTRACT

A HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF THE JAPANESE PRESS TREATMENT OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS' IDENTITIES, 1945-2000

This research examined the factors that have shaped Japanese press policies regarding the treatment of juvenile offenders' identities. The objective was to ascertain whether external factors or internal factors have been most influential in determining how the Japanese press handled the identities of juvenile offenders.

This historical, descriptive study suggested that external factors such as changes in the U.S. juvenile justice system and corresponding shifts in U.S. news media treatment of juvenile offenders' identities affected the Japanese press. More importantly, internal factors such as changes in the Japanese social and legal systems impacted the way the Japanese news media have dealt with naming juvenile offenders.

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