

**The Collective Consciousness behind Japanese Historical
Revisionism:
The Intersection between Postwar Educational Movements and Business
Books**

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The pioneer of Japanese historical revisionism is Nobukatsu Fujioka, a former professor of education at the University of Tokyo. Previous research has shown that people's anxiety caused by changes in the modern social structure was the motivation for supporting his discourses. However, this explanation is oversimplified because it ignores the social and historical context at that time. This paper aims to clarify the collective consciousness behind Fujioka's discourses by analyzing them historically and examining how they intersect with other discourses sharing the context.

The improvement in the economic position of Japan and the criticism of economic friction from other countries evoked two kinds of collective consciousness. One was the necessity of internationalization to insist on opinions logically, and the other was the desire to predict the future facing the unclear economic situation. These consciousnesses made business books be in fashion. They encouraged business people to study debate techniques to think and express logically and Japanese history as a hint for future prediction. Fujioka, who regarded postwar education as outdated, agreed with these discourses. He developed debate as a method of teaching history, combining debate techniques and Japanese history. As a result, he provided 'Jiyuu-shugi-shikan' (a Liberal View of History) as a counter hypothesis for debating a Marxist view that predominated postwar history education.