Representation of entrepreneur in Japanese TV drama

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Amid intensifying social issues like declining birthrates and an aging population,

entrepreneurs are attracting more expectations and attention as part of potential solutions. Analyzing

how entrepreneurs have been depicted in Japanese TV dramas over time can elucidate connections

between media representations of entrepreneurs and broader social and cultural trends.

The originality of the subject matter and uniqueness of methodology give this research its

distinctiveness and significance. To my knowledge, no existing research analyzes media portrayals of

entrepreneurs, a globally prominent figure, in Japan, where nurturing venture businesses is considered

difficult. This study examines representations of entrepreneurs in Japanese TV dramas from 2000 to

present, before and after 2005 when Livedoor's attempted takeover of Fuji TV brought major attention

to entrepreneurs and startups in Japan.

By revealing how depictions of entrepreneurs have evolved, this research attempts to

elucidate linkages between media portrayals and sociocultural contexts surrounding entrepreneurs.

The novelty lies in applying media representation analysis to understand entrepreneurs in Japanese

society. Tracing changing media representations over two decades offers an innovative window into

how entrepreneurs gained prominence despite presumed difficulties fostering startups in Japan. This

historically-grounded media narrative analysis promises new insights on entrepreneurs, media, and

culture.