



Talk:

Epistemological Revolution in Japan's Long 1968

APR
17
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A focus on student actors has often led historians of Japan to dismiss the idea of epochal change in “the long 1968.” In fact, these years were a watershed in the basis of authoritative knowledge. Born in the two decades from 1900-1920, “transwar” social scientists shared demographic characteristics and a common commitment to objectivity. In the 1960s, their critiques of the postwar order, which they themselves had built, led to the dethronement of objectivity as the hallmark of epistemological legitimacy. It also led to their own exit from the universities. The talk will conclude by looking at their younger replacements, who inaugurated subjective, activist, and particularist paradigms of knowledge.

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