

The author has presented an innovative approach to problems of value-creation at the shop floor by applying a historical approach combining both economic and sociological analysis. Thus, the effort-pay relationship is conceived as being shaped by social power which in turn is converted into strategies for coping with external challenges such as changing markets and technologies. In order to grant high productivity, control over the work process should be a managerial task, which of course could be delegated at least partly to "committed" and skilled workers. The author's historical analysis also shows that the equilibrium solution: the matching of managerial power and workers' interests, does not grant competitive productivity levels for ever. Instead, historical compromises, as witnessed in British and U.S. industries, turn out to be an obstacle to further progress. Ultimately, this may well be the case with Japan. The book competently demonstrates, that proper shop-floor organization has to take into account not only the classical costs of production but as well the costs of social relationships granting commitment.

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Erratum

In the last issue of this journal (Volume 2, Number 1), the following book review was unfortunately not accredited to the reviewer:

Vasko, T., Ayres, R., Frontvielle, L. (eds): Life Cycles and Long Waves. Springer-Verlag, Berlin 1990. 292 pp. + xiv, ISBN 3-540-52473-8.

This book was reviewed by Prof. Massimo Di Matteo, Department of Political Economics, University of Siena, Siena, Italy.

We apologize sincerely for the omission.