

в 1971 году стало ключевой точкой, вынудившей Японию трансформировать свой финансовый дискурс, сместив фокус с экспортной ориентации на развитие наукоемких технологий и инноваций. Опыт Японии демонстрирует важность адаптивной финансово-правовой стратегии в условиях внешней зависимости и глобальных валютных трансформаций для достижения долгосрочной экономической устойчивости.

1.Total Value of Exports and Imports (1950-) // Trade Statistics of Japan. Ministry of Finance. URL: https://www.customs.go.jp/toukei/suii/html/nenbet_e.htm (дата обращения: 08.11.2025).

2.Security Treaty Between Japan and the United States of America // WorldJPN. 1951. URL: <https://worldjpn.net/documents/texts/docs/19510908.T2E.html> (дата обращения: 08.11.2025).

3.The Constitution of Japan // Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet. URL: https://japan.kantei.go.jp/constitution_and_government_of_japan/constitution_e.html (дата обращения: 08.11.2025).

4.End Of An Era: Sony Stops Manufacturing Cassette Walkmans // TechCrunch. 2010. 22 October. URL: <https://techcrunch.com/2010/10/22/an-era-ends-sony-stops-manufacturing-cassette-walkmans/> (дата обращения: 08.11.2025).

5.Honda celebrates 40 years of production at Anna Engine Plant in Ohio // Automotive World. URL: <https://www.automotiveworld.com/news-releases/honda-celebrates-40-years-of-production-at-anna-engine-plant-in-ohio/> (дата обращения: 08.11.2025).

6.American aid and the reconstruction of the Japanese economy // OpenEdition Books. URL: <https://books.openedition.org/igpde/14912?lang=en> (дата обращения: 08.11.2025).

THE IMAGE OF A LAWYER IN MASS CULTURE: MYTH OR REALITY

Goncharenko S.R., Mokrushina N.S.,

4th-year students Saratov State Law Academy, Saratov, Russian Federation

Scientific supervisor – Kuznetsova Yu.A., Candidate of Philology, Associate Professor

Keywords. Lawyer, movies, justice, court, law, case, image.

Introduction. Lawyers are regularly portrayed in popular culture, including novels, true crime stories, movies, serials and TV shows. When people think of a lawyer, they often imagine a person in a black suit, with a serious face, speaking very confidently and persuasively in court. According to most people, good lawyers don't make mistakes, also they have to know all the laws and win all their cases in court. Many of these stereotypes were created under the influence of movies and TV shows, but is this picture true to real life? The aim of this article is to analyze the stereotypical image of a lawyer presented in mass culture, and to compare it with the real qualities and professional activities of lawyers.

Methods. For this purpose, the article explores the image of lawyers in movies and serials, identifying their characteristics (appearance, personality traits, motivation etc.). These characteristics will be compared with the image of lawyers in real life, that is associated with various specializations, the routine nature of the work, and professional competencies.

Results and discussion. Several studies in this field have indicated that images of lawyers in movies are highly stereotypical and have no connection with the real legal profession [1, 2]. Researchers also express some worries that movies strongly influence public opinion and promote negative and wrong image of lawyers in society [2]. As Stefan Machura noted in his work *An Analysis Scheme for Law Films* "law films in their majority take the stance that the quality of the people decides on the quality of the courts. But justice heavily depends on righteous legal professionals" [3].

Our research is based on a comparative analysis. The following movies and serials were selected for our study: "Justice for all" (1979), "A Few Good Men" (1992), "The Verdict" (1992), "The Devil's Advocate" (1997), "Liar, Liar" (1997), "Erin Brockovich" (2000), "Legally Blonde" (2001), "The Lincoln Lawyer" (2011), "The Firm" (2012), "Miss Sloane" (2016), "Dark Waters" (2019).

Our analysis has shown that movies often create and follow stereotypical picture of a lawyer. In many movies, lawyers are depicted as smart, brave, and confident people who wear elegant suits and speak eloquently and persuasively.

In the movies “A Few Good Men” (1992), “The Verdict” (1992), “Miss Sloane” (2016) the lawyer is portrayed as a fighter for justice, standing against a corrupt system. Their professional duty turns into a personal mission. Each of these films ends with a flawless and captivating speech by the lawyers in court. At the same time, there is no mandatory work with evidence, which gives the impression that the law is a stage for personal moral triumph.

In other famous movies like “The Devil’s Advocate” (1997), “The Firm” (2012), “Justice for all” (1992), “The Lincoln Lawyer” (2011), “Dark Waters” (2019) lawyers are portrayed not only as heroes, but also as victims of the system. These characters want to achieve success and rapid career growth. However, they realize during their legal practice that working for a client requires a lot of moral strength. The legal system promised them wealth and status, but in the end, it deprived them of their freedom of choice and moral principles.

The movies «Legally Blonde» (2001), «Liar, Liar» (1997), «Erin Brockovich» (2000), portray the unusual image of a lawyer. The main characters do not fit the traditional images of legal professional: Elle Woods is underestimated for her appearance, Erin Brockovich has no legal education and Fletcher Reed is a pathological liar. However, their success depends not on following legal formalities, but on the most important human qualities: empathy, honesty, and perseverance. These images of lawyers change the stereotypes of what a good lawyer should be like, suggesting that justice can be achieved through humanity.

In reality, lawyers do not match the image from movies. Based on the examples given, we can say that in movies lawyers are often shown as strong and intelligent people who often look like heroes. But in real life, their work is not always so dramatic, real lawyers are normal people who very often perform routine tasks. Some of them work in big companies and deal with business problems, while others work for the government or help poor people for free. There are also lawyers who never go to court – they read many documents, draft legal papers such as contracts and work quietly in offices.

Many people think that lawyers are rich and powerful, but this is not always true, because some lawyers earn a lot of money, while others have simple lives. What really makes a lawyer “good” is not money or status, but the wish to protect people and achieve justice. A good lawyer must communicate well with people and understand people of different social status, they need to have such qualities as patience, honesty, and carefulness. Sometimes lawyers work long hours and feel very tired as their work requires a lot of effort to achieve the desired result. They must also continue to study new laws, because the world and legislation are always changing.

Conclusion. So, this study has shown that the image of a lawyer depicted in mass culture is more of a dream than reality, because no one is perfect, all lawyers are different people with their strengths and weaknesses, their successes and failures, their own problems and every lawyer can make mistakes, feel nervous, or lose a case. It is important to remember that behind the perfect image of a good lawyer, there is always a real person who works hard and believes in justice.

1. Asimow, M. Bad Lawyers in the Movies // Nova Law Review. – 2000. – Vol. 24. – P. 533-584.

2. Greenfield, S., Osborn, G., Robson, P. Film and the Law: the cinema of justice. – 2010. – 358 p.

3. Machura, S., An Analysis Scheme for Law Films. // University of Baltimore Law Review. – 2007. – Vol. 36. – P. 329-345.