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The success recorded in natural science in the eighteenth and century was so enormous on the social and intellectual life of the then people of Europe that they started trusting the words of the scientists and even sought their opinion on matters unrelated to science such as law and forensic evidence. All this explains why belief in science or application of science to any issue is called positivism from then on.

The socio-cultural milieu in which positivism grew is called the renaissance and the enlightenment period it is also called a renaissance period because it marked a period when people started a revolution of return to their Greek heritage of using reason in matters of public concern and not the dictate of religion as it was in the age prior to this time. The aeon prior to the renaissance period was called the dark ages because it was the time religious belief reigned supreme. The words of the pope was the final authority of any matter. Diseases were said to be the direct consequences of sin and idolatry Romanticism gave rise to humanism and naturalism, and works of art and literature produced at this time were also regarded as classic. Scientific approach to things grew out of philosophical approach to issues, but science was restricted to study of phenomena because it was only the material that was believed to behave in a regular and predictable way. Not until a French philosopher called August Comte thought otherwise. He was of the opinion that society behaves in a regular pattern much like material things and this behavior can be studied and somewhat accurate predictions made. Comte is being regarded till date as the father of sociology and social sciences in general. There are a lot of problems with this conception of ideal knowledge seeking enterprise. First of these problems of observation upon which the basic justification of positivism came is laden with error.

Social science is an area of study dedicated to the explanation of human behavior, interaction and manifestations either as an individual in a society or collectively as a group including the institutions norms and mores such interaction created. Disciplines in social sciences includes sociology, psychology, economics, political science, archaeology and anthropology. Although the history of philosophy dates back to early philosophers who wanted to study how society works such as St Augustine and the 14th historian. Social sciences seek to employ method of science in the investigation of social phenomena taking the human person as object of study.

However the philosophy of social science arouse out of the curiosity that the central focus and the propelling motive of social science may be impossible or unachievable due to methodological mismatch. In other words, there exist an incongruity stem from the fact that human beings do not behave in an exact way objects of natural sciences behave. To understand the problem of social sciences better, we need to understand that one of the essential features of science and scientific explanation is to provide a casual or correlational connection between an events A is the cause of the event B which is the effect. According to this account, for anything to be the course of another, the course and effect must have an invariable or constant relation in the sense that whenever the alleged cause occurs, the effect must also occur. And many more to mention. Francis Offor also explains in some following words he said the principle of cause and effect states that for every event in the universe, there is a set of conditions such that if the conditions are all fulfilled, then the event invariably occurs. Offor goes further to assert that, by employing the scientific method in social investigation, the social sciences seek to explain the cause of the action involving human agents. To make this clearer let us imagine Mr. A makes this statement upon seeing some of his friends who demanded to know why he punched one of them at a gym. The man says “I punched him because I was angry’’ Nearly everybody will agree that the reason why the man punched his friend is because he was angry. In other words anger is the reason or the cause for punching his friend. This explanation pretends the words ‘reason and cause’ can be substituted for one another without any loss meaning even when we see causation from purely mechanistic angle. If the reason to something can be many but the cause to something cannot be, to what extent can we take reasons as causes?

One way to solve this problem is to accept reasons are not causes but motive or intent. For example some android phone or iPhones applications are of necessity to buy if you want to use the phone. Some application will even force the user to update it, causing the user to spend data on the update as the data is the currency of the internet nowadays. The law of demand and supply does not seem to work here as consumers have no choice. Now, if supposed scientific law is neither absolute nor held quite often, should we continue to call it scientific laws of economics?