COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION

NAME:AJAKAIYE GLORY OLUWALONIMI

MATRIC NUMBER: 19/sms04/002

COURSE:GST 118

COURSE TITLE:PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

QUESTION: WRITE A REVIEW ON CHAPTER 8 OF HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

A REVIEW ON CHAPTER VIII

This chapter looks into the philosophy of social science and applied science. It started with how the success recorded in natural science in eighteenth and nineteenth century was so enormous on the social and intellectual life of the then people of Europe that they started trusting words of scientists and even sought their opinion on maters unrelated to science such as law and forensic evidence. The positive response to science happened as a result of change in sociology-cultural milieu that’s why the belief in science is called positivism from the on.

The socio-cultural milieu in which positivism grew was called renaissance and the enlightenment period. This is because it marked a period when people started a revolution and abandoned the dark ages.

The use of literature the benefits of using it to arrive at a justified conclusion just as Socrates, Plato, Aristotle used to. It became a classical period of romanticism. It gave rise to humanism, naturalism and works of art and literature. Positivism rejects theoretical speculations that are not based on facts of experience as a means of obtaining knowledge. There are a lot of problems with this conception of ideal knowledge seeking enterprise. The shortcomings of positivism is based soley on observation e.g observation are concept-laden, are hypothesis-laden,theory-laden,value-laden,interest-laden and are laden with culture-specific ontologies.

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. Disciple said include: sociology, psychology, political science etc.

Although, the history of the disciplines dates back to early philosophers who wanted to study how the society works they are; Karl Marx,Thomas Hobbes etc. However it was Auguste Comte that was regarded as father of social science.

Objective includes :

Understanding humans in both historical and cultural development context and factors responsible for such developing or change.

Being able to predict human behavior based on pattern, belief system social norms and other factors influencing human behavior.

Influencing human behavior, grooming it towards a socially desirable conduct and challenging collective efforts towards developments and manipulating manipulating if possible the laws guiding human behavior

Advancing beyond armchair philosophy they knowledge about the characteristic temperaments and associated behavior of a person a group.

The problem of reason and causes

To understand this problem with social sciences better we need to understand that’s one of the essential feature of science a scientific explanation is to provide a casual or correlation now connection between events and it’s cause

According to this account for anything to be cause And effects must have an invariable or constant relation in the sense that whenever the alleged course occurs the effect must also occur.

Be spatially contiguous that is the two events most a occurr in approximately the same location or at least be related by a chain of events that a spatially linked.

The problem of human person as object of study in social sciences.

Another problem with the projects of social science is that according to Max Weber, methodology of science becomes in applicable due to the fact that the object of study in social science is man a rational being with freewill, desires, emotions and other sentient features that come into play in this action or reaction. All these factors undermine do you notion of predictability of behavior which witch natural science is known to deduce their principles and laws for example; one can see this principle is through an economic situation using the laws of demand and supply.

In conclusion, one can see philosophy of social science as a means of understanding in the society and human beings.