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PHILOSOPHY ASSIGNMENT

QUESTION; WRITE A REVIEW ON THE CHAPTER 8 OF ‘THE HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE’

PHILOSOPHY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE AND APPLIED SCIENCES

The philosophy of social science is consequently a metatheoretical endeavor, a theory about theories of social life to achieve their end philosophers of social science investigate both the practice of social science and the nature of the entities that the social science study eg human beings themselves. The philosophy of social science is the study of logic , methods, and foundations of social sciences such as economics political science and psychology. Philosophers of social science are concerned with the differences and similarities between the social and natural science phenomena, the possible existence of social laws and the ontological significance of structure and agency. Philosophy of science is a sub field of philosophy concerned with the foundations methods and implications of science. In the 18th and 19th centuries there was a success record in the natural science which was so big on the social and intellectual life of the then people of Europe then they started trusting the words of scientists and even sought their opinions on matters unrelated to science such as law and forensic evidence. Positivism grew in the socio cultural milieu which was called the ‘The Renaissance and the enlightenment period’ it was called the renaissance period because I was a period when people started to return to their greek heritage of using reason in matters and not the dictate of religion as it was in the prior ages. The aeon prior of the renaissance period was known as the dark ages, because religion was supreme and the pope usually had the final say about anything be it political or economical the pope has the final say. Diseases were said to be a form of sin and idolatry. At this time the intellectual community saw this as a very big threat to human happiness and survival. Romanticism gave rise to humanism and naturalism and works of art and literature produced at this time were also known as classic. There are two most important things In the modern period which are;

* The diminishing authority of the church
* The increasing authority of science

Science was restricted to the study of natural phenomena because it was only the material that was believed to behave in a regular predictable way, until a French philosopher named ‘AUGUST COMTE’ who thought otherwise, he was of the opinion that the society behaves in a regular pattern like material things. This marked the beginning of social science and from then COMTE was regarded as the father sociology and philosophy till date. Positivism rejects theoretical speculation that are not based on facts of experiences. There are facts based on positivism which are;

* Observation are concept laden
* Observation are hypothesis laden
* Observations are theory laden
* Observations are value laden
* Observations interest laden
* Observations are laden with culture specific ontologies

What is social science

Social science is an area of study dedicated to the explanation of human behavior interaction and manifestation either as an individual in a society or collectively as a group including the institution norms ad more such interaction created. Social science is the branch of science devoted to the study of human societies and the relationships among individuals within those societies. The term was formerly used to refer to the filed of sociology the original science of society established in the 19th century. Social science has some disciplines which include; sociology economics political science etc .Social science seeks to employ the method of science in the investigations of social phenomena taking the human person as object pf the study,they include;

1. Understanding humans in both historical and cultural developments
2. Being able to predict human behavior based on the pattern of interaction
3. Influencing human behavior
4. Discovering and manipulating if possible
5. Advancing beyond arm chair philosophy

THE PROBLEMS OF REASONS AND CAUSES

* Have an invariable or constant relation in the sense that whenever the alleged cause occurs
* Be spatially contiguous that is the two events must occur in approximately the same location
* Be temporally related such that the cause precedes the effects in time just as the effect must follow
* Have an asymmetrical relation in that the occurrence of the alleged cause must be actual event

THE PROBLEM OF HUMAN PERSON AS OBJECT OF STUDY IN SOCIAL SCIENCE

Another problem with the project of social science is that according to max weber .this object goes along with the law of demand which states that the higher the demand the lower the quantity and the lower the price the higher the quantity demanded.