**Name:** Onodingene Theophilus Akachukwu

**Department:** Law

**Matric No:** 19/LAW01/219

**Course:** History and Philosophy of Science

**A REVIEW OF CHAPTER 8 OF TEMIDAYO D. OLADIPO AND NOAH O. BALOGUN, HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE.**

The chapter began by letting us in on the fact that during the eighteenth and nineteenth century, natural science was so enormous in the social and intellectual life of the people of Europe. It was said that the people began to trust the words of the scientists and sought their opinions in matters not relating to science also and it was said to be the result of the socio-cultural milieu which brought about positivism. Positivism can be said to be any belief in science or application of science. It was then said that positivism grew during the period of renaissance and enlightenment. Renaissance was the period whereby people started a revolution to return back to their Greek heritage, where they used reason in matters of public concern and not the dictate of religion as it was in age prior to the present time. The aeon prior to the renaissance period was called the dark ages and during this period the Pope’s word was final on any matter. It was a period of chaos in that diseases were seen as direct consequences of sin, men and women were burned at stake because of being found guilty of witchcrafts and sorcery by the church, and the church waged wars to exterminate heathens. It was during this time that intellectual community who opposed of this came together to infiltrate literature with the hope of using reason to arrive at a justified conclusion as their counterparts Socrates and his associates did. It was then known as the classical period of romanticism. It was also said that scientific approach to things grew out of philosophical approach to issues during this period but it was still restricted to study of natural phenomena because it was only the material that was believed to behave in a regular and predictable way. This was in motion until French philosopher August Comte thought otherwise. He believed that society behaves in a regular pattern much like material things and the behaviour could be studied and somewhat accurate predictions made. It was also said that positivism rejected theoretical speculations that are not based on facts of experience as a means of obtaining knowledge. It was also said to explicate on the idea of social science it birthed.

Social science is said to be an area of study which does its bets to explain the human behaviour; its interaction, its manifestations either as an individual in a society or collectively as a group. It helps to seek to employ the method of science in the investigation of social phenomena taking the human person as object of study.

The problem of reason and cause was also looked at during the course of the study. The first thing talked about was the principle of cause and effect. It was said that for cause and effect to take place firstly; they must have a constant relation.

Secondly; they must be spatially contiguous

Thirdly; they must be temporarily related, such that the cause precedes the effect.

Lastly; they must have asymmetrical relation in that the occurrence of the alleged cause must be actual event, which brings about the effect. Its principle 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.