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REVIEW OF CHAPTER 8

The continuous progress in natural sciences in previous centuries such as the eighteenth and nineteenth century was very massive on the social and intellectual lifestyles of people of Europe as they started trusting words of scientists and also sought their opinion on matters that are unrelated to science such as law. The socio cultural milieu in which positivism grew is called the renaissance and enlightenment period.it is called this because it marked a period when the people started a revolution to return back to their Greek heritage. The words of the pope were the final authority both of political and social matters. Diseases were said to be punishments for sin and idolatry, so the church found a way to exterminate heathens and the community saw this as a big threat. Romanticism gave rise to humanism and naturalism and literature produced at this time were very classic

The effect of that maneuvering was overwhelming scientific approach to things grew out of philosophical approach to things grew out of philosophical approach to issues but science was restricted to study of natural phenomena because it was the only material that was believed to behave in a predictable way. Not until a French philosopher thought otherwise. He was of the opinion that society behaves in regular pattern much like material things. This is the beginning of social sciences, positivism rejects theoretical speculations that are not facts of experience as a means of obtaining knowledge. there are a lot of problems with this conception of ideal knowledge seeking enterprise. These include the facts that

* Observations are concept laden
* Observations are hypothesis laden
* Observations are theory laden
* Observations are value laden
* Observations are interest laden

Furthermore, social science is an area of study dedicated to the explanation of human behavior, interaction and manifestations either as an individual or society or collectively as a group. However, the philosophy of science arouses out of the curiosity that the central focus and the propelling motive of social science may be impossible or unachievable due to the methodological mismatch. In other words, there exist an incongruity in using method of scientific enquiry to study human and his society. The incongruity item from the fact that human beings do not behave in and the exact way objects of natural sciences behave

THE PROBLEMS OF REASONS AND CAUSES

According to the text the causes and effects must have an invariable and constant relation in the sense that whenever the alleged cause occurs must also occur. Some scholars have argued weather its not better to leave the reason as the motive, drive or intent and not cause. Nonetheless, there are some scholars that still insists that reasons can be treated as causes.one of the scholars argued to the extreme that reasons are not the causes but they are the extreme causal power to inanimate things.

Another problem with the project science is that the methodology of sciences becomes applicable due to the fact that the object of study in social science is man a rational being with freewill and desires and other features that comes into play in the action or reaction. All these factors undermine the notion or action of predicting the behavior of natural sciences

In conclusion social science seeks to employ the method of science in investigating of social phenomena taking humans as an object of study

THANK YOU