

NAME: ADEBAYO FOLAKEMI EZINNE

LEVEL: 100

COURSE: GST 118

COLLEGE : SMS

DEPARTMENT: IRD

QUESTION : in not more than 2 pages ,do a review of chapter 8 of Temidayo D. Oladipo and Noah O. Balogun , History and Philosophy of science.

In the eighteenth and nineteenth century, the success recorded in the natural science was enormous because many people started trusting the words of scientists and even sought their opinions on various matters that were not even related to science . This period is referred to as the renaissance and the enlightenment. At this time the words of the pope was the final authority on any matter, be it political, social, or intellectual. If a person was guilty of witchcraft he or she is burnt alive. It was believed that diseases were consequences of sin and idolatry.

There are a lot of problems with this conception of ideal knowledge seeking enterprise first of these problems is observation upon which the basic justification is positivism came is laden with error. These include the facts that : observation are concept -laden , observation are hypothesis- laden , observations are theory -laden, observations are value – laden , observations are interest -laden, observations are laden with culture -specific ontologies.

MEANING OF SOCIAL SCIENCE - 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 interactions created. Disciplines

in the social sciences Include: sociology, psychology, economics, political science, archaeology and anthropology. The history of the discipline dates back to the early philosophers who wanted to know how the society works such as St. Augustine. Ibn Khaldun ,Karl Max, Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, Emile Durkheim and others. However, Auguste Comte is regarded as the father of social science.

THE PROBLEMS OF REASONS AND CAUSES

To understand this problem with social sciences better, we need to understand that one of the essential features of science and scientific explanation is to provide a causal or correlational connection between an event and its cause. For anything to be the cause of another, the cause and effect must :

1. Have an invariable or constant relation in the sense that whenever the alleged cause occurs, the effect must also occur;
2. Be spatially contiguous, that is ,the two events must occur in approximately the same location or at least be related by a chain of events that are spatially linked.
3. Be temporally related such that the cause precedes the effect in time just as the effect must follow continuously from the cause; and
4. Have an asymmetrical relation in that the occurrence of the alleged cause must be actual event ,which brings about the effects, such that the effect must not be part of the original conditions that are necessary and sufficient for its own occurrence.

According to Max Weber, methodology of science becomes inapplicable 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 to that come to play in his action or reaction. All these factors undermine the notion of predictability of behavior with which natural science is known to deduce their principles.

It has been observed even by economists themselves that these laws do not hold all the time since man does not behave rationally all the time. The law of demand and supply does not seem to work here as consumers have no choice .

