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ASSIGNMENT.

Summarise Chapte 8 of philosophy.

Philosophy of social sciences and applied sciences.

The success recorded in natural science in the eighteenth and nineteenth century was enormous on the social and intellectual life of the then people the then people of Europe that they started trusting the words of scientists and even asked for their opinions even on matters unrelated to science such as law. The positive response to science happened as a result of change in "socio-cultural milieu" of the time. The sociocultural milieu in which positivism grew is called the renaissance and the enlightenment period. It is called a renaissance period because it marked a period when people started a revolution of return to their Greek heritage of using reason in matters of public concern and not the dictate of religion as it was that time. The words of the Pope was the final of every matter (political or social). It was a period that humans were burned at stake because they were found guilty by the church of witchcraft. Diseases were said to be direct consequences of sins, so the church waged several wars to exterminate the heathens. Thi community saw it as a big threat to human happiness and survival. Humans started infiltrating literature with the benefits of using reason to arriv at justified conclusions.Arts and music were hidden Greek worldviews too. Which became know as the "Romanticism" which gave rise to humanism and naturalism. The works produced as at this time were also regarded as "classic".According yo Russel " the period of history which is commonly called model has a mental outlook which differed from the medieval period. Of these two are the most important: i)the diminishing authority of the church ii)increasing authority of science.

Scientific approach to things grew out of philosophical approach to issues, but science was restricted to study natural phenomenon becaus of the belief that only material behaved in a particular way. This believe was changed by a French social philosopher August Comte decided that the society behaves in a regular pattern like material things.This was the beginning of social sciences and sociology. August Comte is still regarded as the father of sociology and social sciences. Positivism rejects theoretical speculations that aren't based on fact of experience as a means of obtaining knowledge. Positivism declares false. 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 of positivism came is laden with error. They include the facts that observations are: concept laden,hypothesis laden theory laden,value laden, interest laden and lastly are laden with culture specific ontogies.

What is Social Science? It is an area of study dedicated to the explanation of human behaviour, interactions and manifestations, either as an individual in a society or group. Disciplines in the social science include: sociology, archeology, political science and many more. Social science seeks to employ the method of science in social phenomena taking the human person as object of study. The Objectives include: understanding humans in both historical and cultural development context. 2. Being able to predict human behaviour based on the pattern of interaction. 3. Influencing human behaviour grooming it towards a socially desirable conduct. 4.discovering and manipulating the laws governing most of human behaviour. 5. The knowledge about the characteristic & associated behaviour of a person or group. It could be concluded that philosophy of social science started out of curiosity. There is an incongruity in using method of scientigic enquiry to study human and his society. This is because humans do not behave in the same way as objects of natural science.

The Problem of Reasons and Causes: In order to understand the problems with social science better it is better we understand the essential features of science that it is to provide a casual or correlationational connection between events and its causes. According to this account, for anything to be the cause of another, the cause and effect must: 1. Have an invariable relation in the sense that whenever the alleged cause occurs the effect must also occur. 2. Be partially contiguous 3. Be temporarily related such that the cause precedes the effect in time. 4. Have an asymmetrical relation in that occurrence of the alleged cause must be actual event, which brings about the effect. The principal of causes and effects states that for every event in the universe there is a set of conditions such that if conditions are all fulfilled then the event invariably occurs, According to Francis Offor. He also stated that by employing the scientific method in social investigation, the social sciences seek to explain the cause of action involving human agents. If the reason for something can be many but the cause of something cannot be, to what extent can we take reasons as causes? One way to solve this problem is to accept reasons are not causes but motive or intent. Scholars like Auguste Comte have argued on whether it is not better to leave reason as motive, drive or intent and cause. Though there are some scholars who insist that reasons can be treated as causes.

The Problem of Human Person as Object of Study in Social Sciences: Another problem with the project of social science is that according to Max, methodology of science becomes inapplicable due to the fact that the object of study in social science is man, a rational being with free wills and other sentient features that come into play in his action or reaction. These factors undermine the notions of predictability of behaviour with which natural science is known to deduce their principals & laws.