Name: Cynthia ifunanya okafor

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PHILOSOPHY Of SOCIAL SCIENCE AND APPLIED SCIENCE

The successes recorded in science in which people began trusting the words of science happened as a result of change in the socio-cultural milieu of the time hence belief in science were regarded as positivism. The period in which positivism grew was regarded as the renaissance or enlightenment period. It is called so because it marked the period when people returned to their Greek heritage of using reason in matters of public concern and not religion as it was done in the age prior to this time.

The period prior to the renaissance period was called the dark age because it was at that period religious belief were supreme. The words of the Pope was the final decision of any matter either political, social, or intellectual.It was at that time people were burnt on stakes if found guilty of sorcery.The intellectuals how ever saw this as a threat to human happiness and began to filtrate literature with the benefit of using reason to arrive at justified conclusion. This became the classical period of romanticism and it gave rise to humanism and naturalism. Works of art at that period were also regarded as classic.

Scientific issues 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 regular and predictable way not until a French Philosopher thought otherwise by giving his own opinion which states that society also behave in a regular pattern just like material things and this behavior can be studied and predictions made. That brought about the beginning of social science especially sociology and August Comte till today has been regarded as the father of social science.

Positivism rejects theories that are not based on the fact that experience is the source of knowledge. However, positivism has with it some shortcomings such as observation which is the basic justification of positivism has a lot of errors

**WHAT IS SOCIAL SCIENCE**

Social science is the study of human behavior, interactions, and manifestation either individually or collectively as a group. The history of social science dates back to early philosophers who wanted to study the society and its properties. Early philosophers such as Thomas Hobbes, Karl Max, among others. Auguste Comte however is regarded as the father of social science. Disciplines under social science includes. Sociology, Economics , Political science, Psychology, Archaeology, and Anthropology. Social science seeks to employ the method of science in its investigation using human person as object of study.

**OBJECTIVE includes:**

Understanding human behavior

Able to predict human behavior

Influence human behavior

Discovering and manipulating human behavior

Advancing beyond armchair behavior

**THE PROBLEM OF REASON AND CAUSE**

According to David Humes, for anything to be the cause of another, the cause and effect must:

1.Have an invariable relation in the sense that whenever the cause occur, the effect must also occur.

2.Be spatially contagious that is, the two events must occur in approximately the same location .

3.Be temporary related such that the cause precedes the effect in time just as the effect must follow continuously from the cause.

4.Have an asymmetrical relation in that the occurrence of the alleged cause must be actual event, which brings about the effect.

**Frances Offor** states that for every event there is a set of condition such that if the condition is fulfilled, there is an event that will follow. Further explanation states that reasons are not cause but motives or intent because reason for something can be many but cause of something cannot be. However there are scholars such as Robin collinghood who argues that reasons are not only causes but ultimate casual power which lies in human and that ascribing casual power to inanimate things and object in the Physical world might be too naïve for us.

**THE PROBLEM OF HUMAN PERSON AS OBJECT OF STUDY IN SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Another problem associated with social science according to Max Weber is that methodology of science becomes inapplicable due to the fact that the object of study is a man who is a rational being. Man posses properties such as free will ,desires, emotions, among others thus undermining the ability to predict behavior with which natural science is known to deduce their principles and laws.