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The success recorded in natural science in the eighteenth and nineteenth century was so enormous on the social and intellectual life of the then people of Europe that they started trusting the words of scientists even sought their opinion on the matters unrelated to science such as law and forensic evidence .This positive response to science happened as a result of a change in the socio-cultural milieu of the time and this explains why belief in science or application of science to any issue is called positivism from then on.

The socio-cultural milieu in which positivism grew is called the renaissance and the enlightenment period. The effect of that maneuvering was overwhelming. Scientific approach to things grew out of philosophical approach to issues, but science was restricted to study of natural phenomena because it was only the material that was believed to behave in a regular and predictable way. Not until a French social philosopher called August Comte thought otherwise. He was of the opinion that society behaves in a regular pattern much like material things and this behavior can be studied somewhat accurate predictions made. This is the beginning of social sciences, especially sociology and Comte is being regarded till date as father of sociology and social sciences in general.

Positivism rejects theoretical speculations that are not based on the fact of experience as a means of obtaining knowledge. Facts that :

1. Observation are concept-laden
2. Observation are hypothesis-laden
3. Observation are theory-laden
4. Observation are value-laden
5. Observation are interest-laden
6. Observation are laden with culture-specific ontologies

Social science is an area of study dedicated to the explanation of human behavior, interaction and manifestation, either as an individual in a society or collectively as a group; including the institutions, norms and mores such interactions created . The objective of such endeavor include:

1. Understanding humans in both historical and cultural development context and factors responsible for such development or change
2. Being able to predict human behavior based on the pattern of interaction, belief system, social norms
3. Influencing human behavior; grooming it towards a socially desirable conduct and channeling collective effort towards development.
4. Discovering and manipulating if possible, the laws governing most of human behavior

The problem of reasons and causes

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 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