Positivism is the believe in science or application of science in any issue. It is a doctrine that states that the only authentic knowledge is scientific knowledge, and that such knowledge can only come from positive affirmation of theories through strict scientific method, refusing every form of metaphysics. Positivism grew in a socio-cultural called the renaissance or enligtment period. It is called so because it marked the revolutionary return of people to their greek heritage. The time prior to this was called the dark ages as it was the period when religious beliefs reigned supreme.

Scientific approach to things grew out of philosophical approach to things, since science was restricted to only the study of natural things. August comte a French social philosopher thought otherwise, that society also behaved in regular and predictable ways as assumptions could be made from these. It was the beginning of social science and till date comte is referred to as father of sociology and social sciences in general.

Speculations that are not based on experience as a means of obtaining knowledge are rejected by positivism. Problems with this particular technique includes:

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

SOCIAL SCIENCE

WHAT IS SOCIAL SCIENCE ?

Social science is a branch of science that studys the society and human behavior in it, including anthropology, communication studies, criminology, economics, geography, history, political science, psychology, social studies and sociology. It seeks to employ scientific methods of phenomenon taking humans as an object of study. Which includes:

1. Influencing human behavior.
2. Being able to predict human behavior.
3. Advancing beyond arm chair philosophy.
4. Discovering and manipulating laws governing human behavior.
5. Understanding human beings in both historical and cultural context.

PROBLEMS OF REASON AND CAUSES.

One of the essential features of scientific methods employed in the investigation of social phenomenon is reason and cause.

1. The cause must preceed the effect in time just as the effects must follow continuously from the cause.
2. Have an invariable or constant relation in the sense that whatever cause occurs the effect must also occur .
3. The two events must occur in approximately the same location or related by a chain of events that are spatially linked.
4. The allerged cause must be tha actual event, which brings about the effect, such that the effect must not be part of the original conditions.+