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MATRIC NO: 19/LAW01/209

COURE TITLE: HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

COURSE CODE: GST 118

QUESTION

In more than 2 pages do a review of Chapter 8 of Temidayo D. Oladipo and Noah O. Balogun HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE; A brief summary

PHILOSOPHY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (APPLIED SCIENCES)

The success recorded in natural sciences in the 18th and 19th century was so enormous on the social and intellectual life of the then people of Europe that they started trusting the words of scientists and even sought their opinions on matters unrelated to science like law and forensics. 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 why belief in science or application of science to any issues is called Positivism this was during the renaissance and enlightenment period. However the intellectual community at that time saw the activities occurring as a big threat to human happiness and survival, therefore the infiltration of literature begot the classical period of Romanticism which gave a rise to humanism and naturalism.

Scientific approach to things grew out of philosophical approaches 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 manner. August Comte a French social philosopher thought otherwise, he was of the opinion that society behaves in a regular pattern much like material things and this behavior can be studied and somewhat accurate predictions made this marked this beginning of social sciences. Positivism rejects theoretical speculations that are not based on facts of experience as a means of obtaining knowledge.

Social science is an area of study dedicated to the explanation of human behavior, interactions and manifestations either as an individual in a society or collectively as a group including institutions, norms and more. It seeks to employ the method of science in the investigation of social phenomena taking the human person as an object of study. However the philosophy of social science arouse out of the curiosity that the central focus and the propelling motive of social science may be impossible or unachievable due to methodological mismatch

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 casual or correlational connection between an event and its cause. Explication of casualty goes back to David Hume, Ernest Nagel presents Hume’s exposition