

Abstract

Philosophy of science partly is related to theory of knowledge, containing contents regarding to methods to be employed by science to search for the truth of the world and confirming rationale of the methods, or in the other word contents regarding to 'methodology'

This thesis; "Philosophy of social science in Sociology: positivist and interpretive approach" started with exploring the influence of science in The Vienna Circle's logical positivism, which had tremendous role in offering methodological principles of scientific investigation in natural and social science. The programme of logical positivism is aimed at the objection of metaphysics and the creation of the unity of science.

Positivist sociology has adopted logical positivism to investigate the mental aspect of human behavior for search for universal laws of social behavior, by focusing on causal relation between the structure and forces and result on overt behavior. Another focus is operational definition of concepts and variables. Therefore, the procedure is in the form of statistical and quantitative analysis which is the imitation of methodology directly from natural science.

In contrary; interpretive sociology views human behavior as the process of interaction and interpretation , therefore, From this 'tradition' human life must be studied from experience of actors and the accomplishment of their action. This approach has the definition of situated action, requiring *verstehen* : "interpretive understanding" which focus on the procedure that clearly different from (logical) positivist approach.

However, the process of inquiry of the positivist and the interpretive sociology both employ the same scientific criteria, i.e. analytical and empirical aspect. But the fact that the assumptions about nature of the social world, human nature, human behavior of these theoretical frameworks are different resulting in different methodological approach.