

A DISCUSSION ON THE CONTEMPORARY SCIENTIFIC APPROACHES OF RESEARCH IN SOCIAL SCIENCES

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ABSTRACT

Approach to social science research basically depends on the objectives of i) research ii) the nature of the problems iii) method of analysis and iv) extant data. But the objectives pursued through research differs in nature. This falls within the purview of theoretical research. Research may be driven by one of the following objectives or combination thereof: i) Enunciation of pure theory which generally uses deductive logic-ism ii) Verification and validation of received hypothesis, which needs empirical evidence to support the theory. The research is qualitative in nature. It is based on inductive logic-ism since empirical evidence has to be marshaled and analyzed for evaluating the theory. iii) Empirical theorizes, which is based on general or specific evidence. It also uses inductive logic-ism as the basic analysis impact of theory takes theory as given and it uses empirical evidence to examine the impact/effect of theory on the given phenomenon. Thus, it needs empirical evidence from domain of theory implementation along with the objectives of research that is sought to be achieved. Success or failure of theory is judged by a comparison of the state after implementation with the state that obtained before implementation. It uses inductive approach. There is no single research approach in social sciences. In real life situation, investigators generally use of different or compound approaches. All these are used in social sciences either jointly or separately. Thus, the present paper discusses about the contemporary approaches of research applied for social sciences.

KEYWORDS: Scientific Approaches in Social Sciences, Scientific Approaches