

Scientific Method



- The method of all logically trained minds
- The pursuit of truth as determined by logical considerations
- Classifies facts, sees their mutual relation through experimentation, observation, logical arguments from accepted postulates
- Tenets of scientific faith

1. DETERMINISM: Events have causes that events are determined by other circumstances (i.e.. Causal links can eventually be uncovered and understood)

2. EMPIRICISM: Verifiable by observation and ‘evidence’ (data)

3. PRINCIPLES OF PARSIMONY: Phenomenon should be explained in the most economical way possible

4. GENERALITY: More problematic in social & behavioral science

Basic Postulates of Scientific Method

1. Relies on empirical evidence (empiricism)
 2. Utilizes relevant concepts
 3. Committed to only objective considerations
 4. Presupposes ethical neutrality
 5. Results into probabilistic predictions
 6. Methodology is made known to all for critical scrutiny and testing through replication
 7. Aims at formulating most general axioms or scientific theories
 8. Encourages rigorous, impersonal mode of procedure dictated by the demands of logic and objective procedure
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