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ASSIGNMENT TITTLE: SOURCES OF LAW

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 SOURCES OF LAW.

 SECONDARY SOURCES OF LAW.

 Secondary sources of law are background resources. they explain, interpret and analyse. They include encoyclopedials, law reviews, treatises, restatement. Secondary source are a good way to start research and often have citations to primary sources.

Secondary sources are a great place to begine your research. Although the primary sources of law, case law, statutes and regulations, establish law on a given topic, it is often difficult to quickly locate answer in them. Secondary sources often explain legal principles more thoughly than a single case or statues, so using them can help you save time. secondary sources also help you avoid unnecessary research, since you are tapping into work that someone else has already done in an issue*.*

 LAW REPORTS

Law reports as well a efficient law reporting system are essential for a smoot system of judicial administration. this is because in any nation where the principle of judicial precedence is operational, like Nigeria it is only by reference to reported cases that courts and lawyers wold be able to ascertain the position of law in their are of jurisdiction.

 The oldest species of law report are yearbooks (1282-1537). They are regarded as the most comprehensive report but are criticised to have been mere note taken by student and practitioners of law for educational or professional purposes.

 The first form of law report in Nigeria was the Nigerian law report which emerged in 1881 but today they have become extinct. One reportable trend in the law of sustainability. This has been the experience in this Regards with most government and private initiative in this Regards.

 ANOTHER DEFINATION FOR SECONDARY SOURCES OF LAW

The secondary sources of law furnish information or are derived from a primary source of law though examination of a primary source, the primary source or even throw decision bothering on the primary sources.

 In other words, the secondary source will find explanation to the primary sources and this is done through:

\*textbooks

\*dictionary

\*legal encyclopeadia

\*American law reports (ALR)

\*treatises

\*legal journals

\*Restatement

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* \*Textbook: ordinary textbook general text or special textbook.

\*Dictionary (ies): e.g black law dictionary , they assist in the interpretation of words .black law dictionary is the most widely used law dictionary in the united states. It was founded by HENRY CAMPBELL BLACK (1860-1927).it is the reference of choice for term in legal briefs and court opinions and has been cited as a SECONDARY legal authority in many U.S supreme court cases. Black law dictionary has been the gold standard for the language of law. today it is the most widely cited law book in the word. By Bryan A. Garner, the world leading legal lexicographer, the 11th edition is the most authoritative, comprehensive law dictionary ever published.

\*Legal encyclopoias: legal encyclopodias contains brief, broad, summaries of legal topics, providing introduction to legal topics and explaining relevant terms of art. They also provide citations to relevant primary law and sometimes give citations to relevant major law review articles. An encyclopedia is a reference work or compendium providing summaries of knowledge either from a particular field or discipline. Encylopedias are divided into articles or entries that are often arranged alphabetically by article name and sometimes by thematic categories. Encyclopedias have existed for around 2000 years and have evolved considerably during that time as regards to a vernacular (written in a major international or a vernacular language), size (few or many volumes), intent (presentation of a global or a limited rang of knowledge), culture perspective (authoritative, ideological, didactic, utilitarian).

\*AMERICAN LAW REPORT (ALR): American law reports (frequently abbreviated and referred to as ALR) contains in depth article on narrow topic of the law. ALR article, called annotations, provide background, analysis, and citations, and other annotations. ALR in print is located in the lengdell reading room beginning at KF132, the ALR index is located at KF132.2.153.

In American law, the American law reports are a resource used by American lawyer to find a variety of sources relating to specific legal rule, doctrine, or principles. It has been published since 1919, originally by lawyers cooperative publishing, and currently by west (a business until of Thomson Reuters) and remains an important tool for legal research.

ALR has been published in several series (the current series is ALR7th) and there are series of ALR fed (which focuses on federal law) ALR3d through ALR6th and ALR fed are update by pocket part supplement (the first series has a citation service, and ALR2d a later case service).

\*TREATISES: Treatises books on legal topics, are a good place to beginning your research or find an answer to a question, and will help you save time by providing explanation, analysis and tips on the most relevant primary sources.

 Treatises rang from single volume overview to extensive detailed multi-volume set. They may come in the form of bound books update with pocket part or loose leaf with easy replaced page. Some treatises are intended for law student while others are meant for practicing lawyer.

\*LAW JOURNALS: law review or journal articles are another great secondary source for legal research valuable for the depth in which they analyse and critique legal topics, as well as the extensive references to other sources, include primary sources.

Law review are scholarly publication, usually edited by law student, conjunction with faculty members. They contain both length articles and shorter essay by professors and lawyers, as well as comments, notes or developments in the law written by standard law review articles often focus on new or emerging areas of law and they an offer more critical commentary than a legal encyclopedia or ALR entry.

Some law reviews to a particular topic, such as gender and the law or environmental law, and will include in their contents and processing of a wide range of panel and symposia on timely legal issue.

\*RESTATEMENTS: Restatement are highly regarded distillations of common law. They are prepared by the America law institute (ALR), a prestigious organization comprising judge, professors, and lawyers. The ALIs aims is to distill the ‘Black letter law ‘from cases to indicate trends in common law, and occasionally to recommend what a rule of law should be. In essence, they restate existing common law into a series of principles or rules.

Restatements cover broad topics, such as contracts or property. They are organized into chapter, titles, and sections. Section contain a concisely stated rule of law, comments to clarify the rule, hypothetical examples, explanation of purpose, as well as exceptions to the rule.

Restatement are not primary law. Due to the prestige of the ALI and its painstaking drafting process, however, they are considered persuasive authority by many courts. The most heavily cited restatement are the restatement are the restatement of torts and the restatement of contracts.

 THANK YOU