**Name: Nwokoro Chinwendu ifeoma**

**Matric No: 19/law01/158**

**Course code: Law 102**

**Assignment tittle: Sources of Law**

**Question**

**Discuss the secondary sources of law in Nigeria. Times new romans, font 12, justify your work**

**What are secondary sources of law?**

**How do you cite a secondary source law?**

**What are the 5 primary sources of law ?**

**The**  secondary sources of law are materials used to discuss, explain, analyze and critique the law they, discuss the law but are not the law itself. some of the great places to start a legal research are encyclopedia and treaties unlike primary materials (case law, statutes, regulations)

Legal researchers are encouraged to begin with secondary sources such as law review, article which are likely to lead to specific primary law such as statutory references or case citation primary law citation can lead the researcher to additional primary law or even back to additional helpful secondary materials. Also remember when searching within a specific area of law, finding repeat cases and references reinforce the importance of your citations and allow you to use digests and citations to find additional sources within the same subject

The law is an abstract term. In order to know what comprises the law, you have to derive it from various places. These places from which the law is derived are aptly described as the sources of law. Sources of law can be definedas the places to which a legal practitioner or a judge turns to in order to answer a legal problem. They can be regarded as springboards from which law emanates. They are the various vehicles through which the law is carried. The sources of  Nigerian law can be divided into primary and secondary.

Primary sources of Nigerian law can simply be regarded as those sources whose provisions are binding on all courts throughout Nigeria. They include:

1. Received English laws

2. Case law

3. Customary law

4. International law

1. International laws.

On the other hand, the secondary sources of Nigerian law are the indirect ways through which we get our law. Save for law reports, secondary sources of Nigerian law are of persuasive authority in the law courts. Law reports are only authoritative due to the fact that they serve as the vehicle through which judicial precedent is carried. Examples of secondary sources of law are:

1. Law Reports
2. Text Books and Treatises
3. Periodicals, Journals, and Legal Digests
4. Casebooks
5. Legal Dictionaries
6. Newspapers

The distinction between primary and secondary sources of law is very useful in determining authorities to follow in the law courts. If a case is brought before a court and one party uses a primary source of law as his authority while the other makes use of secondary sources, the scale of justice would tilt in favour of the person who presents primary sources of law.

Secondary sources of law are only made use of whenever there are no primary sources of law to fall back on.

Using secondary sources law

Secondary sources are a great place to begin your research. although the primary sources of law case, law statutes, regulations establish the law on a given topic, it is often difficult to quick locate answer in them . the secondary sources of law explains the legal principal more thoroughly than an a single case or statutes, so using them can help you avoid unnecessary research, since you are tapping into the work that someone has already done on an issue.

The secondary sources include

1. The legal encyclopedia
2. American law report (ALR)
3. Treaties
4. Law journals
5. Restatement
6. Textbooks

The secondary sources

**The secondary sources of law are particularly used for**

1. **Learning the** basic of a particular area of law
2. Understanding the key terms of art the area
3. Identifying essential cases and statutes
4. It might educate you about the law, it can serve as persuasive authority.

How to cite a secondary source of law

The citation should include the following

1. Author
2. Tittle of the article
3. Abbreviation of journal name
4. Date as it appears on the cover
5. The word ‘at’
6. Section and paragraph
7. Publisher
8. Database
9. Currency of the database

Also know that secondary sources should be cited according to the rules for that sources, but add a parallel cite to an electronic database also include the data base identifier if its available

Refrence : Ese mameli text book and the internet