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**Law**

**18/SMS08/001**

Legal method ii

Law 102

Assignment.

Discuss the secondary sources of law in Nigeria.

Solution.

There are two sources of law in Nigeria, which are;

The primary sources of law

The secondary sources of law.

When we talk of sources of something, this can be a place where something is getting or gotten from. Also sources can also be the origin of something. But in law, what we mean by the sources of law is where are law is being gotten from and how are they being formed, to suite the people of Nigeria by the law makers and all other law dealings in Nigeria.

The secondary sources of law fall into formation or are derived from the primary sources of law e. g

The Nigeria legislation

Nigeria case law

Received English law

Nigeria customary law

Islamic law

Constitution of Nigeria., 1999 as amended.

through examination of the primary sources, pertaining of the primary sources, discuss boarding on the primary sources. In other words, the secondary sources provide explanation to the primary sources and this is known through.

1. Text books/ general text/ special text.
2. Journals and periodicals
3. Dictionaries, blacks law dictionaries, encyclopedia
4. Newspapers, radio, TV.

**Text books.**

Text books are the scholars write up about a subject or topic or course which can be of help to the masses if make used of. In law there are different kinds of law text books which serve has secondary sources of law. Many text books teach further the primary sources of law and explains it better for better understanding to masses. Text books as a secondary source of law is actually a reliable source in law in Nigeria because before you can write a law book there are some procedures most be followed dully and the writer must be a legal research about law and it uses. However, law books are very crucial in the law and also as part of the secondary source of law in Nigeria.

**Journals and periodicals**

Journals are the legal write up which gives information about law and what is necessary to know about the law and which serve has secondary source of law and from which judges, lawyers and lecturers and students and all legal deals derived one or two information from about the law. However, journals can be used in many places and by many people but they are mostly find in the universities for all legal dealings.

Periodicals can also be one of the secondary source of law in Nigeria due to it essential role in law, periodicals are the update about the law which is usually published at the end of the week or weeks and contains a lot of current issues concerning law in the state. It is always available in the universities library, law library, public library, private library and so forth and also available Online for the online user to copy and make used of. Periodicals are much needed in every part of the legal work because they give the latest news about the law and also pass valuable information to the reading and the to the legal personnel, because law is dynamic, which is one of the features of law.

**Dictionaries**

Dictionaries are the special books where all law words are being found with their meanings and are well arranged alphabetically for easy access and consultation. This served has secondary source of law in Nigeria because they give meaning to those ambiguous words which are found in the primary sources or may be found there and make clarification to what message is being passed to people, for instance, when the law maker make law for the state through the legislature, before passing such as any bill into a law, those ambiguous words most be dully considered and their meanings most be stated so has to avoid absurdity in the law made by the legislature.

So therefore, dictionaries as a secondary source of law gives meaning to the ambiguous words in the primary source of law.

**Encyclopedia**

An encyclopedia or encyclopedia (British English) is a reference work or compendium providing summaries of knowledge either from all branches or from a particular field or discipline. Encyclopedias are divided into articles or entries that are often arranged alphabetically by article and sometimes by thematic categories. Encyclopedia entries are longer and more detailed than those in most dictionaries. Generally speaking, unlike dictionary entries—which focus on linguistic information about words, such as their etymology, meaning, pronunciation, use, and grammatical forms—encyclopedia articles focus on factual information concerning the subject named in the article’s title.

Encyclopedias have existed for around 2,000 years and have evolved considerably during that time as regards to language (written in a major international or a vernacular language), size (few or many volumes), intent (presentation of a global or a limited range of knowledge), cultural perspective (authoritative, ideological, didactic, utilitarian), authorship (qualifications, style), readership (education level, background, interests, capabilities), and the technologies available for their production and distribution (hand-written manuscripts, small or large print runs, Internet). As a valued source of reliable information compiled by experts, printed versions found a prominent place in libraries, schools and other educational institutions.

The appearance of digital and open-source versions in the 21st century has vastly expanded the accessibility, authorship, readership, and variety of encyclopedia entries.

**News papers.**

**News paper is one of the secondary sources of law in Nigeria, which give information on the latest laws made in the country or state.** Despite the fact that not everybody that have assess to the newspaper, however, some still dedicate their time for it and read the messages which it passing across to the people. For instance, if any law is being made in the country by ant of the houses or parliament in the, it must be published in the newspaper for the purpose of reaching the citizens and for them to be familiarize themselves with it. But nevertheless, the role of newspaper has part of the sources of secondary law in Nigeria cannot be over looked because of the generation.

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Some of these newspapers can be served as reference to the primary sources of law in Nigeria.

**Television (TV).**

Television can also serve has secondary source of law in Nigeria. Most of the stations carries vital information about the law and disseminate it to people. And through the TV series most of the educated and elite ones share the perspectives concerning what is happening in the country through which the law makers can derived one or two points from and modifies it to make a new law for the country in nice way.