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COLLEGE: LAW

DEPARTMENT: LAW

COURSE: LEGAL METHOD

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ASSIGNMENT

Discuss the secondary sources of law

Secondary source of law is created by ministers under powers given to them by an Act of parliament. It is used to fill in the details of Acts. These details provide practical measures that enable the law to be enforced and operate in daily life also they are background resources. Secondary source is not binding they could aid the court in creating rules, the secondary

sources of law are legal encyclopedias, law reviews, legal treatises, restatement, law reports, legal periodicals and legal dictionaries

- LEGAL PERIODICALS

Legal periodicals are very helpful in locating cases and statutes in a particular subject area. Periodicals are also an excellent method of locating current information, subject that are new or too specialized to be covered in books can often be found periodicals. Article in periodicals describe, analyze and comment on the current state of the law. There are numerous types of legal periodicals available, including law school journals and law reviews, bar association journals, legal newspaper and legal newsletters.

- LEGAL ENCYCLOPEDIAS

Legal encyclopedias offer broad and general commentary on a full range of federal and state law. These are useful as a starting point for researching unfamiliar areas of law, most of the articles in encyclopedias focus on a case law and do not contain extensive citations to statutes or other secondary sources, many (but not all) states have legal encyclopedias focusing exclusively on the laws of the state. For example: America jurisdiction and California jurisdiction.

- LEGAL DICTIONARIES

Legal dictionaries provide definitions of words in their legal sense or use. These publications provide a short definition of foreign and Latin legal words and phrases, refer to cases and other legal sources for authority, and may give examples of word usage in various legal situations. They also include tables defining legal abbreviations and acronyms. Black's law dictionary is the leading legal dictionary in the United States of America.

- LAW REPORTS

These are series of books that contain judicial decisions and opinions from the selection of case law in agreement with the court (Supreme Court, court of appeal and

high court or tribunal court). Law reports provide essays that analyze and discuss particular points of law. They focus on narrow legal issues rather than general points of law. The articles analyze and describe case from every jurisdiction that have taken a position on the topic covered. Along with critical case citations, the articles provide references to statutes, digests, texts, treaties, law reviews and legal encyclopedias. The American law reports (ALR) series by Thompson/West is the most comprehensive set of law reports. The first law report in Nigeria was N.L.R. (Nigeria law report) which commenced publications in 1916 but covered the period from 1881-1955. Other law reports include Nigerian weekly law report (N.W.L.R.), Supreme court of Nigerian law report (S.C.N.L.R.) etc.

- **LEGAL TREATIES**

Legal treaties are publications that present a highly organized and detailed explanation of a specific area of law (for example, contract, tort, criminal, or property law). Treaties are published as single-volume or multivolume sets; most treaties are updated by the use of supplements or pocket part. It is single-subject focus in a particular jurisdiction and may contain checklists, tips, sample forms.