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Secondary sources of law are background resources.They explain,interpret and analyze.they include encyclopedias,law reviews,treaties,restatements. Secondary sources are a good way to start research and often have citations to primary sources.

Secondary sources often explain legal principles more thoroughly than a single case or statute,so using them can help saving time that can be later used for other things. Secondary sources also help you avoid unnecessary research,since you are tapping into work that someone else might have already done on another issue.they could also be seen as research reports that use primary data to solve research problems, written for scholarly and professional audiences respectively.Is is rumored that secondary sources were created by a person who did not experience first hand or participate in the events or you are researching,in other words it provides second hand information and commentary from other researchers.

SECONDARY SOURCES INCLUDE ;

.Legal encyclopedias

.Treatises

.Law journals

.Restatements etc

.Biographical works

.Bibliographies and so on.

SECONDARY SOURCES ARE USEFUL FOR ;

.learning the basics of a particular area of law

. Understanding key of art in an area

.identifying essential cases and statutes

.summarizes information from other sources

.can be used for background information

LEGAL ENCYCLOPEDIAS

Legal encyclopedias contain brief,broad summaries of legal topics and explains relevant terms of art.they also provide citations to relevant primary law and sometimes it gives citations and references to relevant major law review articles.

TREATISES

Treatises range from the single volumes to multi volume sets.they may appear in form of bound books updated with pocket parts or loose leafs with pages that can be easily replaced.some treatises are meant for law students while others are for practicing lawyers.

LAW JOURNALS

Law reviews are known publications usually edited by law students with other

faculty members. They contain both lengthy articles and shorter essays by both professors and lawyers ,as well as comments,notes,written by the students. It often focus on new or emerging areas of law and they can offer more critical commentary than a legal encyclopedia. Some law reviews can be dedicated to a particular topic.

RESTATEMENTS

Restatements are highly regarded distillations of common law.in essence,they restate existing common law into a series of principles or rules.they cover broad topics, such as contracts or property.they are arranged into chapters,titles,and sections.the section here contain a concisely stated rule of law,hypothetical examples,explanation of purpose as well as explanation to the rule.they are highly considered persuasive authority by many courts.