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Discuss secondary sources of law

The secondary sources of law explain legal principles more thoroughly than a single case, it also help you avoid unnecessary research since you are tapping into work that someone else has already done on an issue. They discuss the law but are not the law itself.

The secondary sources of law include:

1) Encyclopedia:

A legal encyclopedia is a comprehensive set of brief articles on legal topics. It is arranged in alphabetical order, with an index generally included in the final volume.

A legal encyclopedia help lawyers gain easy access to legal topics. Primary law sometimes give citations to relevant major law review articles.

2) Treaties:

Legal treaties provide a scholarly and in-depth treatment of a legal subject. They often clarify significant concepts in the area of the law covered by the treatise and provide citations to pertinent cases and other primary materials. The law material maintains treaties covering a wide variety of subjects in both print and electronic format which can be located through a search. It helps you find an answer to a question and will help you save time by providing explanation, analysis, and tips on the most relevant primary sources.

It helps provide answers to questions that pertain to primary sources

3) Law journals: They analyse legal topics as well as their extensive references to other sources. They are scholarly publications usually edited by law students in conjunction with faculty members. They contain both lengthy articles and shorter essays by professors and lawyers as well as notes written by law students. They often focus on new areas for law and they can offer more critical commentary than a legal encyclopedia.

They are scholarly publications covering the legal field. They produce articles that are comprehensive studies of current topics in law, generally written by law professors.

4) Restatements: Restatements are highly regarded distillations of common law. They are prepared by the American law institute, a prestigious organisation comprising judges, professors and lawyers. Restatements cover broad topics such as contract and property. They are organized into chapters, titles and sections. Sections contain a concisely stated rule of law, comments to clarify the rule, hypothetical examples. They are not primary laws.

Last modified: 14:01