Name: Ovadje Oghenemineh Angel

Matric number: 19/law01/232

Department: Law

Course code: law102

Secondary sources of law are background resources. They explain, interpret and analyze. Secondary sources are a good way to start research and often have citations to primary sources. They 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:

* Encyclopedias
* Treatises
* Restatements
* Law Reports
* Text Books and Treatises
* Periodicals, Journals, and Legal Digests
* Casebooks
* Legal Dictionaries
* 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.