Name: odedina oluwajoba bolu

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Course: legal method 102

Assignment

* Discuss on the secondary sources of law

Secondary Sources of Nigerian Law

Secondary sources of law are the sources of law that do not carry a dominant legal weight and binding

effect. The legal authorities contained in these kind of sources are diluted and persuasive which are not

binding on any court of law. According to Beredugo (2009), secondary sources of law are less

significance sources of law that carry barely persuasive legal authority or effect and are therefore

not binding on any court of law. Secondary sources can be useful in court of law or resorted to where

the court finds the opinion or fact underlying the authority contained therein. Secondary sources can

also be referred to in court if it supports the authorities of the primary sources. Examples of secondary

sources of Nigerian law according to Beredugo includes:

(a) decisions of courts of foreign countries

(b) International conventions, treaties, and resolutions of international bodies;

(c) Statements or opinions of jurists and learned authors contained in law textbooks, journal,

periodicals, dictionaries, letters, speeches, and interviews;

(d) legal opinions contained in nullified judgements.

(e) law reports, which are series of books that contain judicial opinions from a section of precedents decided by courts

The law reports that have been published over the years in Nigeria include the following:

Nigeria Law Report

All Federation Weekly Law Reports

All Nigeria Law Reports

Commercial Law reports

Customary law in Nigeria through the cases

Eastern Region of Nigeria Law Reports

Election Petition Reports

Failed Banks Tribunal of Nigeria Law Reports

Federal Reporter

Federation of Nigeria Law Reports

Federation Weekly Law Reports

Judgement of the Supreme Court of Nigeria

Law Reports of Nigeria

Monthly Judgments of the Supreme Court of Nigeria

Secondary sources of law also include all sources that provide helpful introductions to legal subjects,

synopses of decisions, statutes, and regulations in a given field, analyses of trends and historical

background of law, explanation of new or difficult concepts, descriptions and analysis of the law and

its developments and citations to primary sources through footnotes and annotations.