




SPECIAL LIBRARIES:

Their Role and Place in Legal Political and Social Development in Nigeria

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Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies



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The Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies
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***I*ntroduction**

In this country little is known about librarianship as a profession and the same goes for "a librarian." Libraries are even in a worse position, for they are regarded as frills – not a producer of tangible or quantitative appreciative goods. In early days in developed countries, libraries were regarded by many people as convenience for old ladies and play centres for children!!!.

This is the irony of libraries, librarianship and librarians, for it should be remembered that books have been in existence for some time and from time immemorial have been a stepping stone to power and influence.

Scope of the Paper

The topic for this seminar is Special Libraries: their Role and Place in Legal, Political and Social Development in Nigeria. I intend to start by devoting a little time to the general history of libraries, take a cursory look at factors affecting our political and social changes in the country, examine the characteristics of special libraries, before discussing in detail the functions of special libraries and their contributions to legal, political and social development of the country.

It is important to point out that the different types of libraries namely: public, special, school and academic libraries do render services, not necessarily exclusive of each other, towards a common goal, that is, national