EVALUATION OF PRIMARY SOURCES

Name

Course

Tutor

Date

**Evaluation of primary source**

To give primary sources some weight, it is to identify a secondary source that can confirm and reinforce the authenticity of the information in question. In the case of the ‘Roles of women in U.S social and political life' newspaper articles would be influential in identifying and proving the contents of the primary source. For instance, when women take up roles in the Bell Company and are contained in a primary source document, it becomes necessary to examine what various newspapers had to say about the period. In the assignment, the evaluation, and subsequent ranking was based on various critical factors including the medium of communication and the content of the document about the issue at hand. Classification of primary sources of information is essential to determine which material to give priority when carrying out research studies (Bowen, 2009).

**The use of primary sources**

Primary sources have an important role to play in research and other learning activities. The reliance on these sources gives the users an opportunity to analyze the situations and make conclusions independently. As a result, the use of the sources enables the student or the researcher to engage in critical thinking to make personal deductions regarding a range of issues. Additionally, primary sources are suitable for the engagement of students in performing various tasks. They take the student back to the place and the time of the events, and that would provoke mental engagement concerning the matters in question.

Finally, primary sources are useful in the construction of knowledge. It is apparent that most pieces of information that are being exchanged from one corner to another have been distorted and may not reflect the accurate picture of the situation. For example, when there are reports that women had a huge role to play in the course of the Second World War, a picture of them participating in the war would be more convincing than mere discussions by individuals who were not in existence at the time.

**Explanation of secondary source**

Regarding the manner in which the information in it is crafted, a newspaper can be a source of both primary and secondary sources. However, the interest in this situation is in the papers as secondary sources. Newspapers can be very instrumental in explaining the events that had occurred in the past. In this regard, it does not provide an eyewitness count of events but only tries to explain things as they might have happened (Matthews & Ross, 2014). The benefits of secondary sources of data are ease of access and reliability.

References

Bowen, G. A. (2009). Document analysis as a qualitative research method. *Qualitative research journal*, *9*(2), 27-40.

Matthews, B., & Ross, L. (2014). *Research methods*. Pearson Higher Ed.