



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
PLOT 91, CADASTRAL ZONE, NNAMDI AZIKIWE EXPRESS WAY JABI, ABUJA
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION
2024 1 EXAMINATION

COURSE CODE: MAC411
COURSE TITLE: MEDIA LAW AND ETHICS
UNITS: 3
TIME: 3 HOURS
INSTRUCTION: ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER THREE

1. National Interest has been a controversial concept in Nigeria. One of the arguments put forward is the notion of what constitutes national interest. Discuss the various dialectics surrounding National Interest in Nigeria. (25 Marks)
2. The media has been the only profession that is mentioned and empowered by the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Discuss the constitutional duty of the Nigerian media. (15 Marks)
3. Section 39 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria prescribes special licensing requirements for broadcasting. Enumerate and discuss the reasons for special requirements for broadcasting. (15 Marks)
4. What is defamation and criminal defamation? (15 Marks)
5. A plaintiff who alleges defamation must prove to the court of competent jurisdiction the essential elements that constitute defamation. Enumerate and discuss these essentials of defamations. (15 Marks)

4. Marvel was watching a live match on Television between two local clubsides, when the commentator announced that there was overcrowding at the stadium, causing some spectators to slump and die. Marvel's only son, Anthony, had gone to watch the match. Marvel rushed to the stadium hospital, where he was told that his son died an hour ago and was allowed to see his son's body. He then broke down, suffered organic depression and a personality change.
- Marvel wishes to sue the organizers of the match, Funny Football Association for damages for the death of his son and his (Marvel's) illness. Advise him. **15 marks**
5. Ajibo, a competent motor driver who had not slept for days, received a phone call that his wife had a motor accident and had been taken to the Teaching Hospital where the doctors needed his signature urgently on a paper authorizing them to perform an emergency operation on her. He got into his car at Ikoyi and started driving it towards the mainland, he fell asleep and ran into some people at the bus-stop thereby killing three passengers who were standing at the bus stop. Consider his Criminal liability stating reasons for your answer with authorities. **15Marks**
6. ".....if at the time of death, the original wound is still on operating cause and a substantial cause, then the death can properly be said to be the result of the wound. (But) if it can be said that the original wounding is merely the setting in which another cause operates, can it be said that the death does not result from the wound." (Lord Parker.O.J in R.V.Smith (1959) 2 ALL E.R.193 at p.198. Discuss this dictum with reference to decided cases in relation to causation in homicide cases. **15Marks**