

## **Sussex Law School and USSU**

**Shami Chakrabarti  
Director of Liberty**

**'Liberty under Threat?'**

**Tuesday 2 May 2006**



**1:00 pm , Venue: A1**

Shami Chakrabarti is the Director of Liberty – the National Council for Civil Liberties. She joined Liberty the day before the 9/11 attacks on the US as an in-house advocate, and since has become synonymous with campaigning against the repressive anti-terrorist measures initiated by the 'War on Terror'. Since becoming Director of Liberty in 2003, Chakrabarti has lobbied Parliament against ID cards, terror laws, the recent 90 days detention without trial, incitement to religious hatred, extraordinary rendition and Asbos. As Director she has also written, spoken and broadcast widely on the importance of the post-WW2 human rights framework as an essential component of democratic society. Short listed in 2006 for the 'Most Inspiring Political Figure' award by Channel 4, she was voted second by the public.

Trained as a barrister, before joining Liberty, Shami worked for the Home Office advising Ministers of different persuasions on sensitive policy issues, and was one of the Home Office officials involved in the implementation of the Human Rights Act.

Liberty is a British organisation that has been working to promote rights and freedoms since the Hunger Marches of the 1930's. As well as lobbying Parliament on laws that undermine civil liberties, Liberty challenges unjust laws by taking test cases to the UK courts and the European Court of Human Rights, and offers specialist human rights advice to lawyers, NGO's and the public on a range of areas.

