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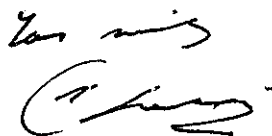


WELCOME TO THE UNITED KINGDOM

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to London as the new Ambassador for the United States of America and offer you this small 'welcome pack' consisting of just some of those products of which Britain can be justly proud. Foremost is a copy of the Magna Carta, the Great Charter of 1215 on which so many rights and freedoms we take for granted today are based – including of course, the rights in the US Constitution and Bill of Rights. Also included is a copy of our modern-day 'Magna Carta': the *Human Rights Act 1998* of which we are extremely proud.

As you may know, Liberty, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year, is the leading human rights and civil liberties organisation in the United Kingdom. We campaign to protect basic rights and freedoms through the courts, in Parliament and in the wider community. One of our current campaigns, Extradition Watch, seeks to effect change to the UK's extradition laws, which we believe lack fundamental safeguards. Extradition law depends, of course, on extradition treaties with other sovereign nations and we are calling on the UK government to renegotiate these treaties, and amend the law, to ensure basic safeguards form part of these agreements. The UK-US Extradition Treaty is one such treaty that we believe needs amending on this basis.

I hope you and your wife enjoy this small 'welcome pack', we welcome you both to the United Kingdom and I hope that we have a chance soon to meet. If you would like to know more about any of our work please do not hesitate to contact me.



Shami Chakrabarti
Director, Liberty