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When Life means Death...

Locations	Law Building (R1 on map) Lecture Theatre 2
Date(s)	Thursday 20th March 2014 (12:30-13:30)
Contact	Admission free, no booking required.
Download	**Add to Calendar (/events/arts-and-science/ArtsScience2014/Talks2014/When-Life-means-Death.aspx?ical=true)**

Arts & Science Festival 2014

...are life sentences merely the death penalty by another name?

The UK is currently struggling with the question of how to punish those who commit the most serious offences. Prime Minister David Cameron has recently criticized the European Court of Human Rights for holding that 'whole life orders' are unlawful, and there are many who believe that we should be able to 'lock people up and throw away the key.'

In this talk, Dr Bharat Malkani (Birmingham Law School) will examine the pros and cons of whole life orders, and suggest that 'whole life orders' are, in practical terms, just the same as the death penalty. By denying prisoners the prospect of release, we are just subjecting them to death by incarceration, which is perhaps worse than death by lethal injection or death by electrocution. And if this is the case, we need to ask ourselves whether we want to bring back capital punishment.

This event is presented as part of Arts & Science Festival 2014, a week-long celebration of ideas, research and collaboration across campus. For details of the full programme, visit: www.birmingham.ac.uk/artsandsciencefestival (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/artsandsciencefestival) .

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