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I arrived in London as a young teenager from Kenya, when Sir John Major was Prime Minister. I was born of two academics who were university lecturers and entrepreneurs. As a young girl in Kenya I enjoyed politics and my dad would always give me the Weekly Review to read. From the moment I arrived I felt I had a connection with the capital city. I had taken an interest in politics while at university, but it was in Islington that my political views first fully formed. Drawings on my wide range of professional experiences, from the glamour of modelling to grassroots community activism, I joined the Liberal Democrats.

I stood as a Lib Dem Council candidate in Tollington Ward, Islington Borough against Catherine West who was then the Leader of the Labour Council Group and is now MP for Haringey. Despite not winning I made a significant swing around, best across London from the Labour majority and rattled the local Labour

Party out of its complacency.

I was deeply honored to be elected the Lib Dem London Regional Diversity Champion, a role I greatly enjoyed and preformed with some considerable success, increasing participation and engagement among inclusion and diversity teams. I have since founded the national BLAC liberal Democrats to promote the voice of Black members within the Party.

Ensuring the Liberal Democrats are relevant to a diverse group of voters is key to unlocking our future. In order to achieve this we must ensure that the make up of our Party accurately reflects the diversity and inclusion of the communities we serve.

We live in precarious times; Covid-19 and Brexit have both stolen economic opportunities from today's younger generations. We

must use our collaborative efforts to bring the needs of young adults and marginalized communities to prominence. We must assure young people that their concerns and efforts are acknowledged and the the Liberal Democrats will push them from last to first place in terms of political priorities.

As your Regional Chair, I will help build our Party back. I will bring patience and understanding to working with different people from different backgrounds, age groups, ethnicity and nationalities. I will call out when necessary any injustices in our local administrations, and vocally celebrate the many successes I predict in all our Region.

As your Chair I intend to empower our membership to participate more in the setting of regional Liberal Democrats agenda. I will take a participatory approach to decision making and endeavour to get shared ownership of decisions.

VOTE FOR CHANGE

JULIET MAKHAPILA

CHAIR OF REGIONAL PARTY

VOTE FOR ME AS NO 1

I will

Give all communities a voice in our agenda setting.

Support the 2021 Mayor's Elections Campaigns

Promote inclusion and diversity

Support trainings and development

Ensure meaningful and appeal conferences and events.

Advocate for the health and well being of all our activists.

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