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Ruth Levitas is Professor of Sociology at the University of Bristol. Her research straddles political theory, transformative ideas and utopianism, and poverty, inequality and social exclusion. She is co-investigator on the ESRC-funded 2011 Poverty and Social Exclusion Survey. Her 2010 essay 'Back to the Future: Wells, Sociology, Utopia, Method' won the Sociological Review prize for outstanding scholarship. Her new book, *Utopia as Method: The Imaginary Reconstitution of Society* will be published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2013.

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