



# IMAGINATION AS A METHOD

Davis , Diane, and Tali Hatuka. 2015. "Imagination as a method for generating knowledge about possible urban future ." In The Routledge handbook of planning research methods .

UTOPIAE INSVLAE FIGVRA



From  
**Plato**  
to  
**Le Corbusier**

- Utopias and Futurism
- "Planning from above" and "planning from below"
- Accountable planning
- Death of imagination



- Our aim here is to bring creative visioning back into the planning lexicon

# Possible futures



- time
- space
- change

**Future visioning can be a "method" deployed by planners and designers to generate knowledge about the city as well as to assess the limits and possibilities of effective planning action.**





# Visioning exercises

*At their best*

*At their worst*

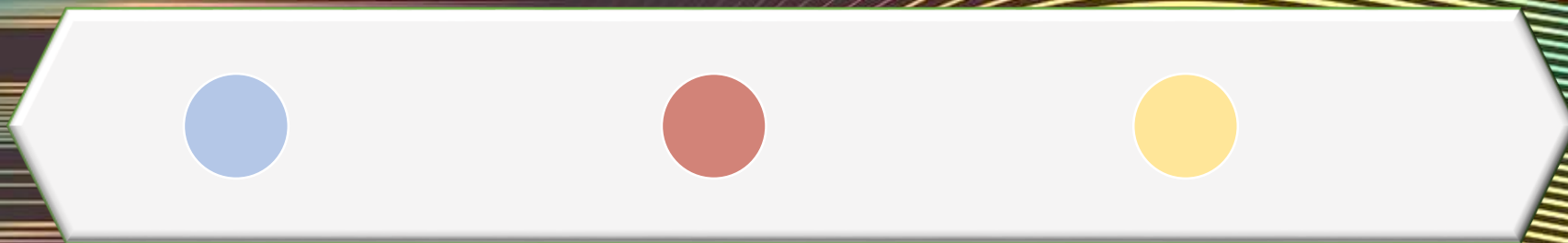
# Role of the planner



- Stimulate imagination
- Find innovative links to future
- Constructive imagination

Pragmatic  
ideas

Utopian  
ideas



Visionary  
ideas



## How to stimulate imagination

Principle 1: Deconstruct perceptions of the city

Principle 2: Question the nature and role of stakeholders

Principle 3: Critically examine the territorial scale of planning action

Principle 4: Specify and priorities the relationship between the whole and the parts



*The power of imagination*