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Just to be sure? An analysis of security in relation to the values of well-being, freedom, and equality

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Just to Be Sure?

An Analysis of Security in Relation to the Values of
Well-being, Freedom, and Equality

Josette Daemen

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Just to Be Sure?
An Analysis of Security in Relation to
the Values of Well-being, Freedom, and Equality

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When I decided that I was going to spend three years of my life writing a doctoral dissertation about the value of security, I didn't foresee how often during those five years (that's right) I would feel that there was something rather ironic about this whole endeavour. There I was, writing days on end about the importance of security for leading a flourishing life, while I myself was moving down a path of so much *insecurity*. Insecurity about my job and income once my PhD contract would end (after which I would have to try my luck on the dreaded academic labour market); insecurity about the direction into which my research would take me (wasn't I running in circles, or stuck on a dead-end road?); insecurity about whether or not it would ultimately all be good enough. It looks like I made it to the end, though, and this is in large part because of one thing that I *did* always have security of in the past few years; one thing that I *could* consistently count on: the support of a whole lot of wonderful people that I found by my side. I want to express my special gratitude to some of them.

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