

# Behind the Picket Fence



Source: *The Good Old Days: America in the 40's and 50's*. Alexandria, TIME LIFE books, 1996.

1. What is the message of the cartoon regarding life during the 1950's?
2. Does the cartoonist have a purpose and if so, what is the purpose?

# Housing

	1950	1960
U.S. HOMEOWNERS <i>millions</i>	23.6	32.8
NEW HOUSING UNITS STARTED <i>millions</i>	1.4	1.3
LAWN AND PORCH FURNITURE SALES <i>millions of dollars</i>	53.6	145.2

*By 1960, with the peak postwar housing shortages already met, housing starts declined, but the sales of accessories, such as lawn and porch furniture, soared.*

1. In what ways does this chart support the message in the cartoon?
2. How do both the cartoon and the chart support the "Keeping up with the Joneses" attitude of the 1950's?