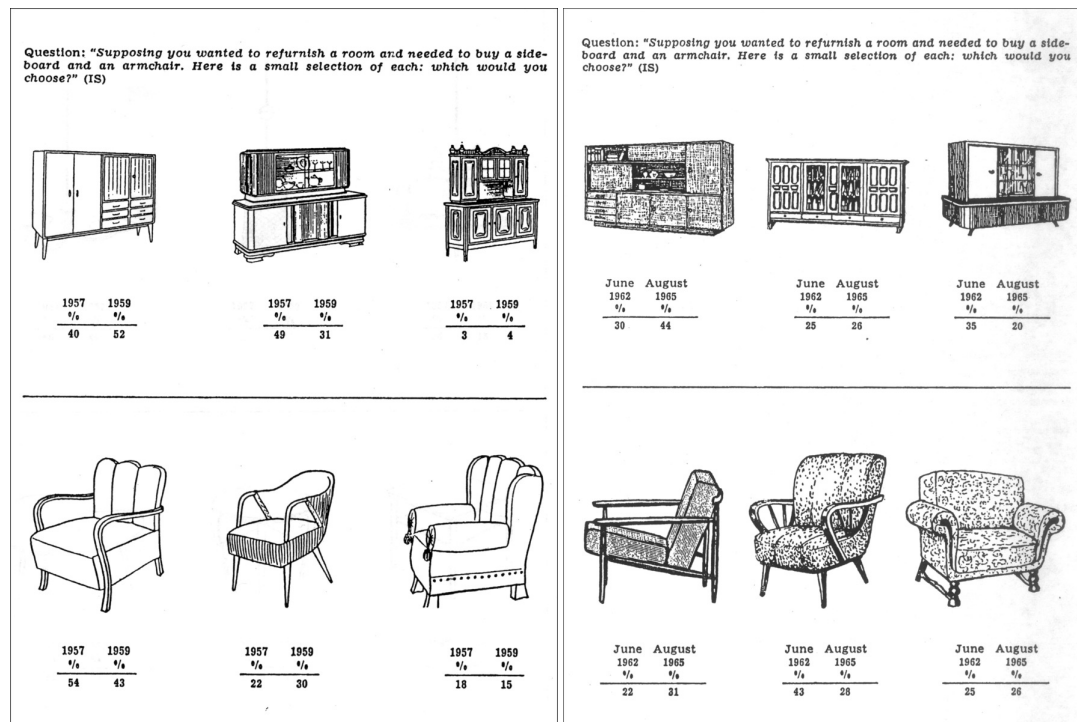


Illustrations of Home Furnishings (1955-1960)

Abstract

Personal tastes in home furnishings changed in the 1950s. Opinion polls show that the popularity of traditional, massive, ornate furniture declined significantly in favor of modern, straightforward designs. Sideboards, heavy chairs, and chandeliers gave way to simpler cupboards, floor lamps, and the *Nierentisch* (kidney-shaped table), which became the symbol of the domestic culture of the time.

Source



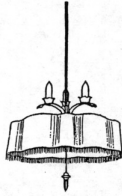
Question: "Supposing you wanted to refurnish a room and needed to buy a lamp and a table. Here is a small selection of each: which would you choose?" (IS)



1957	1959
$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
50	49



1957	1959
$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
11	17



1957	1959
$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
24	15



1957	1959
$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
24	39



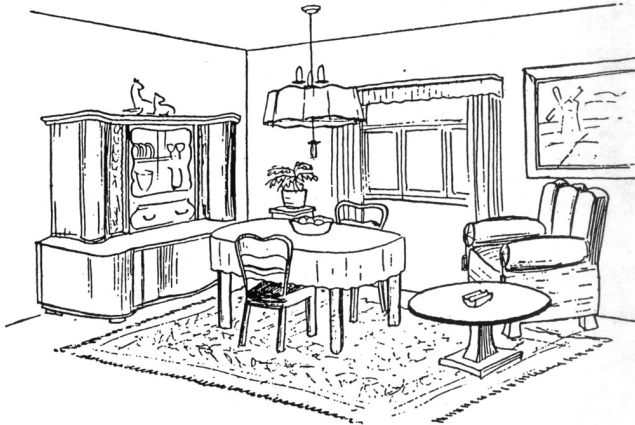
1957	1959
$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
37	27



1957	1959
$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
27	19

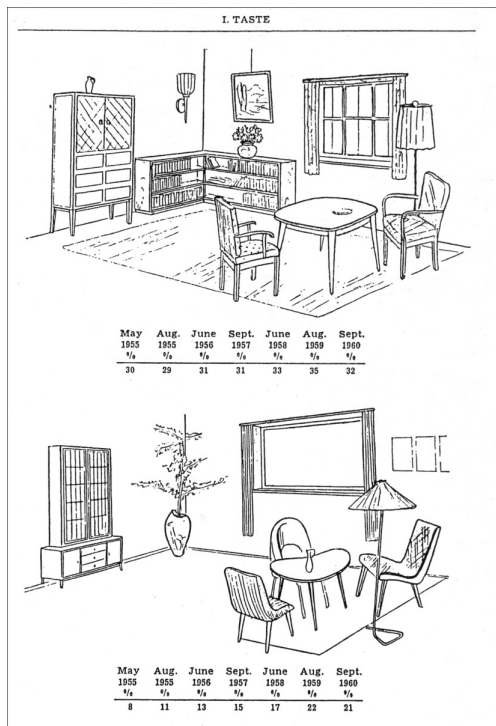
LIVING-ROOMS

Question: "Here are some pictures of living-rooms. Which of them do you like best? Which would you choose if you had to live in one of them?" (IS)



May	Aug.	June	Sept.	June	Aug.	Sept.
1955	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
56	54	51	47	46	37	38

*) Question asked in 1956: "How do you prefer to have the ceiling? White or ivory time-washed, or papered like the walls, in a totally different colour to the walls, panelled, or how else?"



Source: Elisabeth Noelle, Peter Neumann, *The Germans. Public Opinion Polls 1947–1960*. Allensbach, 1967, pp. 134–40.

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