

Back to the Fifties



GENDER ROLES - DID YOU KNOW?

- The gender roles for men and women were clearly defined in 1950s America.
- Couples wed early. In the late 1950s, American women got married at the average age of 20.
- Generally, women were the 'homemakers' and stayed at home, whilst men went out to work. These expected gender roles were reinforced through print and television advertising.



YOUTH CULTURE & 50S MUSIC

The fifties saw the emergence of youth culture and rock 'n' roll, which originated from black American music such as gospel, jump blues, boogie woogie, rhythm and blues, as well as country music. The genre acquired its name in 1954 and was pioneered by artists such as Chuck Berry. (Look out for Marvin Berry, Chuck Berry's cousin, who appears in **BACK TO THE FUTURE: The Musical**)