**ER 7.2 Some American proverbs**

Mieder *et al.* (2002) is a dictionary of American proverbs. Here are five proverbs taken from it (though they may not all have American roots). Describe the kind of situation in which you think each would be used.

1. *Sweep the dirt from in front of your own door, and don’t worry about your neighbor’s*.

2. *Don’t climb the hill till you get to it.*

3. *Live with the lame and you will limp*.

4. *Stroke a nettle and it will sting you: grasp it and it is as soft as silk*.

5. *The way to be safe is never to feel secure.*