

# Discussion



Discussion Causes of Fire Outbreak in at the Station Night Club fire in Rhode Island There were two main errors that contributed to the tragic outcomes of the Station Night Club fire in Rhode Island; Firstly, the tour manager of the American hard rock band Great White had set off pyrotechnics that caused the sound insulation foam upon the ceilings as well as the walls around the stage to catch fire since the sound insulation foam was flammable. Secondly, the way to exit had been blocked which left the people helpless and trapped inside the club while the fire burnt around 100 people alive. A similar disaster that had different causes of fire outbreak was the one that happened in March 2012 in a nightclub in Novi Sad, the Northern Serbian City. The cause of the fire outbreak was electrical fault (omoakala. blogspot. com, 2012).

#### The Myth of Panic vs Reality

The myth of panic during fires means that in the incident of fire breakout, people get into panic and make their utmost effort to escape and save their own lives irrespective of others. Such a behavior is identified as a myth because this is not what normally happens during a disaster. There is a great deal of difference between the myth of panic and the actual behavior of people observed during the incident of a fire outbreak. In reality, people tend to help as many people as they can even if they have to put their own lives in danger for that. People help others around them before helping themselves. This behavior has been commonly observed during the disasters. For example, during the 9/11 attack, people not only helped their friends and relatives escape, but also the strangers (White, 2003).

#### Decision-making during Fire Outbreak

In the event of fire outbreak, occupants' decision making is influenced by a <https://assignbuster.com/discussion-essay-samples-28/>

whole range of factors including commitment, familiarity, role and responsibility, and social. The occupants cannot think of leaving people they are familiar with behind in trouble. They feel an intrinsic sense of commitment and moral obligation to God as well as other people to help the people. It seems just too out of place and selfish to just take care of one's own life and forget one's role and responsibilities toward others. Man is known to be a social animal. Likewise, the occupants' decision making during a fire outbreak is affected by their social networks and links.

#### Effects of Occupants' Characteristics on their Behavior

Occupants' individualistic traits like their age, gender, physical and mental capabilities play a fundamental role in the level of help they can extend to others during a fire outbreak. Certain occupants like children, women, and old men indeed need others' help to escape since they cannot even help themselves whereas other occupants like young men are more physically capable of helping themselves as well as helping others. Women may lose balance during such disasters whereas men generally maintain their balance since they are emotionally more stable as compared to the women.

#### References:

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