

# Fireworks Belong Outdoors

By *Alexander Baron* - Nov 3, 2015

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You've probably heard the expression "Shouting fire in a crowded theatre", you probably know what it alludes to, it is a restriction on free speech, one that airheads like **Bahar Mustafa** would like to extend to anything of which they disapprove, but do you know where it comes from?

In the Nineteenth Century when health and safety regulations were nowhere near as stringent as they are today, there were a number of fires in public buildings that led to enormous loss of life. As recently as December 1913, seventy-three people, including children, were crushed to death in a stampede in a hall at Calumet, Michigan when somebody shouted "Fire!" even though there was no fire.

What though if there is a fire? More to the point, what if said fire is totally avoidable? Such was the case in Bucharest last week when the rock band Goodbye To Gravity set off fireworks in a night club as part of their act. Twenty-seven people were killed, and on Monday it was revealed that **two more had died**; the casualties run well into double figures, and more may yet die. Did anyone ever hear of anything so idiotic as to let off fireworks during an indoor concert? Unfortunately yes, in February 2003, the American band Great White **fronted by Jack Russell** were performing at *The Station* nightclub Rhode Island when the use of fireworks led to the deaths of 100 people, every one of them unnecessary. The band's tour manager Dan Bichiele was given a ten year sentence for involuntary manslaughter. And would you believe there have been other, similar disasters since?

Thursday is **Guy Fawke's Night** in England, and very likely you will be having or attending a bonfire either on that night or the weekend. While even an Englishman wouldn't be so stupid as to build a bonfire in his house, people do sometimes use fireworks indoors. Be smart, and don't!

And if you ever attend a concert or any other mass gathering at which fireworks are about to be used indoors, get the Hell out of there, or better still, tell the management to halt the proceedings while they can.

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