

Tania Fils-Aime

## Is Travis Scott at Fault?

Travis Scott, an American rapper and producer, is receiving major backlash after an incident that occurred during his music festival, [Astroworld](#). A surge of fans ran through a barricade causing thousands of people to be pressed up on one another. The aftermath [resulted](#) in 9 deaths and left many injured. Who should be blamed? Travis Scott? Security? The Venue, or the fans?

Fans who attended are sharing their videos, stories and statements online about what happened. Many [videos](#) that were uploaded shared a common theme of fans yelling at Travis Scott to stop the music because people were dying and getting seriously injured. Most fans immediately put the blame on him for the deaths and injuries.

There have been previous incidents at Travis Scott shows. In 2017, Kyle Green was paralyzed after he was pushed off a balcony according to [CNN](#). Kyle had a strong reaction to this tragedy. According to his lawyer he is "Even more incensed by the fact that it could have been avoided had Travis learned his lesson in the past and changed his attitude about inciting people to behave in such a reckless manner." CNN also cites a 2015 GQ interview with Scott about 'how to rage' at a show. Scott said he wanted his concerts to feel like high-energy wrestling matches. He often encourages the crowd to match his energy level on stage, which often translates to jumping, dancing or forming mosh pits in front of the stage." Scott, amongst similar artists such as Playboi Carti and

Trippie Redd, have the same appeal to their fanbase of raging at their concerts which also caters to their lifestyle and image.

[Travis Scott](#)'s growing fanbase is diverse and includes fans of all ages, predominantly late teens and twenties.

Maria Benetiz, 24, believes that Travis Scott is at fault and did not care about what happened because, "He cares about the money and just the lifestyle that he lives." When asked if Scott's apology video statement seemed genuine or planned, Benetiz answered with, "It was pushed by the team 100%." She says she believes that Scott and his team are trying to make this go away by paying for the funeral expenses hoping that will make everything die down. As much as my interviewees blames Scott for this incident, there is one who fully puts the blame on Travis, one who believes it's 50/50, and the other fully puts it on the fans.

Maya Thompson, 23, feels that it is partially Travis's fault because he continued performing while his fans were telling him to stop, but says no as well since he is 1 person against a crowd of 50 thousand people. She trusts that the fans are more at fault and should be responsible and be held accountable for what happened. She expressed, "Nobody told y'all to run forward and go trample each other, y'all chose to do that by yourselves. You guys also chose to take drugs by yourselves, he did not force you to do it."

Aikyea Green, 26, holds the venue accountable for not having enough security spread throughout the event and not taking precautions. [Complex reporters interviewed](#) Darius Williams, a security guard at Astroworld. Williams describes the hiring process as poorly set up from the beginning when the job listing was posted to getting situated

at the event. Williams said the exam and preparation following up to the event, was not thorough for the state's level II requirement. The hiring process was rushed, orientation and training took place the day before the concert. Williams saw that they were understaffed the day of the concert, "I would say there was probably one security guard for every 500 to 1,000 people."

Green thinks the [theory](#) of the festival being a "[sacrifice](#)" is not true at all and people should be more compassionate when speaking on lost lives due to a tragedy like this. "It hurts the people because it's like you're trying to find any reason to justify their deaths as opposed to just letting them, you know, grieve." Few days after the incident, Scott gained about 500 thousand new followers on Instagram and his single, "Sicko mode" re-entering the top 200 on Spotify. Green feels that Scott was just doing his job as a performer and his fans will support him despite what is happening. She feels that Scott is benefiting from this situation rather than hurting him.