Does maliciously dumping beer on someone's head constitute assault or some other violation of the law? Yes, if the person pouring the beer did it on order to hurt the other person, insult him/her or try to start a fight. A.R.S. section 13-1203 is the statute that explains what an assault is and A.R.S. 13-1203(A) (3) is the specific part of the law that applies to your question. Throwing a substance at another person is considered -touching- under this section of the law. See answer to question 5 under -violence- section of Speak Up to learn the punishment for assault.