The problem Kahlenberg looks into is the underfunding of community colleges. This can be seen as early as the first paragraph when he says, “Year after year, policymakers have chosen to severely underfund America’s two-year community colleges”. He then explains why the issue is not widely known noting that children of the elite are rarely found at these colleges. He expands on the issue of the underfunding of community colleges when he says, “Researchers have long recognized that disadvantaged students need more resources to succeed - private four-year research institutions - spend $72,000 per full-time student annually. Public research universities spend $40,000. Compare both those numbers with the $14,000 spent by community colleges.” He tells the reader about the resources required for someone disadvantaged, like many community college students who come from a lower socioeconomic standing, to succeed and quickly contrasting it to the resources available to the students of other colleges.

To solve this issue, Kahlenberg proposes that “States and municipalities should immediately begin to increase community college funding” and that “Federal and state governments should band together to create federal-state partnerships for community colleges in which states would receive federal matching funds if they agreed to increase investments in two-year institutions.” However, these solutions are only for the short-term success of community colleges; he contends that there should also be “a new body of research that will establish, for the first time, what it costs to give community college students a reasonable chance of succeeding and entering the middle class.” He suggests that this research, which he notes is already commonplace for K-12 education, will be vital to the efficient use of this new funding to determine a minimum standard for a proper college education available to the masses.

Overall, his solutions to the problem of underfunded community colleges seems more than reasonable, barring anyone who seemingly abhors educating the masses being in power. The costs associated to the solutions are likely to be minimal compared to the potential long-term benefits.

Problem: The problem is that ocean warming caused by air pollution is intensifying tropical storms.

(Shortened to “The problem is that tropical storms are intensifying” if the umbrella doesn’t need to be mentioned)