

Climate dangers ignored

The point of Jonah Goldberg's column seems to be reassuring readers that despite climate scientists' urgent calls for action on global warming, despite President Trump's withdrawal from the Paris Agreement and despite Stephen Hawking's warnings about climate catastrophe — it will all be OK (“‘Ugly environmentalist’ ever more crazed on climate,” July 17).

Goldberg argues we'll solve climate change based on the relatively obscure economist Julian Simon's belief that humans are the ultimate resource, because we solve problems. But can you solve a problem that you refuse to acknowledge?

Goldberg didn't mention that Simon never accepted that greenhouse gases cause climate change — or that the ozone layer was being depleted by CFCs, or chlorofluorocarbons. To be fair, Simon died in 1998.

But in his book “The Ultimate Resource,” Simon listed under “definitely disproven threats” Agent Orange (dioxin), PCBs, DDT and even the toxic stew of Love Canal. He pooh-poohed asbestos and lead poisoning dangers as well. In general, Simon seemed to have a problem accepting that certain human activities do cause environmental degradation.

— Judy Weiss, Brookline

[LINK](#)