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Starting with a finite graph, we wish to ‘color’ each vertex with a vector from  $\mathbb{C}^k$  in such a way that two vertices are adjacent if and only if the vectors assigned to them are not orthogonal. The salient question is: For a given graph, for how small a  $k$  is this possible? We will present some recent results on this problem and discuss its relationship with other problems in combinatorial matrix analysis. (Received September 22, 2010)