Collaborative Buying to India

(Or Why Three Heads are Better Than One....)

Presented by: Mara Thacker
South Asian Studies & Global Popular Culture Librarian
By the numbers...

- 3 Colleagues
- 15 Days
- 5 Cities
- 2 Conferences
- 116 Books and Zines
- 4 DVDs
Why travel together?

• Pool our social and intellectual capital and as a collective access more resources than we would be able to alone
• Share our networks of contacts
• Complement each other’s linguistic and disciplinary strengths
• Coordinate major purchases to strengthen the national collection
• Support one another and travel more safely.
Outcomes

• Ability to extend working day
• Ability to travel to new cities and neighborhoods safely
• Greatly increased professional network and credibility with colleagues
• Richer conversations with colleagues and vendors
• Coordinated collection activities and knowledge of each others acquisitions for later access
• Discussing solutions for other challenges back home
• Taking advantage of unexpected opportunities for new niche collections
• General moral support