## ChatGPT:

Gladiatorial games were a popular form of entertainment in ancient Rome that were also used as a way for politicians to gain support and for wealthy individuals to gain recognition. The games became big business for those who trained and owned the gladiators, and were often used as a way for politicians to gain votes. In the late Roman Republic, those who owned gladiators had significant political power. Julius Caesar, for example, used 320 gladiator pairs in a show he held to honor his father, even though he was heavily in debt. The games became increasingly popular and widespread, and despite efforts to regulate them, they remained an important tool for politicians to gain support. Augustus, the first emperor of Rome, took control of the games and made it a civic and religious duty to provide them. He also established rules for the cost of the games and limited their frequency. The games became associated with the state-sponsored imperial cult and were used to gain recognition, respect, and approval for the emperor and his laws. The cost of the games and the number of gladiators used in them continued to increase over time